



WILL AVENGING DUSTY RHODES
DESTROY STEVE KEIRN?

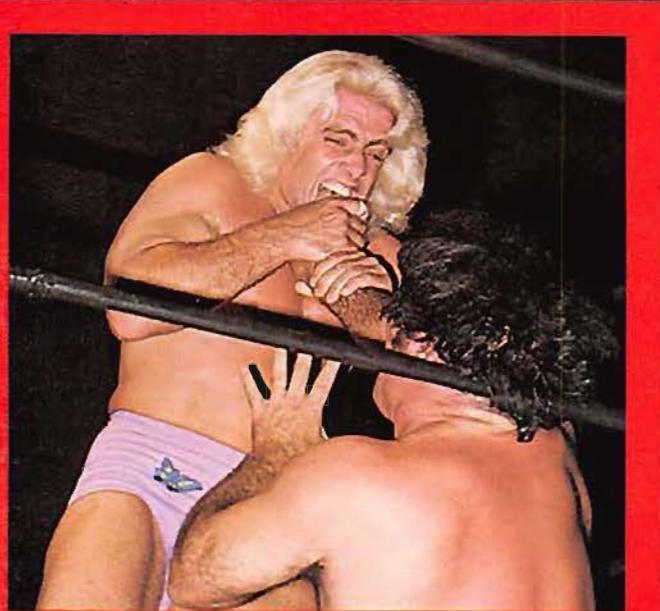
February 1980
47951 \$1.25

The Wrestler

Special Feature:

**"HOW I SAVED
BACKLUND'S TITLE"**

By Andre the Giant



**RIC FLAIR'S DAYS AS A
FAN FAVORITE ARE OVER**

**TED DIBIASE MUST
BE GIVEN THE
NORTH AMERICAN
TITLE**



Your Dreams Can a Duraclean Service

You have a more enjoyable career
...and you can start full or part time



*Hundreds of men—previously working for salaries or wages—
now enjoy greatly increased incomes, personal independence, and secure futures
as owners of a low-investment, high-profit, lifetime business*

Unthinking men may tell you that the day is past when an individual can build a successful business of his own. The fact is that service businesses have opened a new world of opportunity. The "mama and papa" grocery store and the corner druggist have succumbed to the gigantic chains. But, in their place, an exciting new kind of business offers big profit opportunities for the individual.

For twenty years the "service industry" has grown with fantastic speed. Let

the chains have the retail store business. Even a small service business providing an unusual service can bring profits to the individual that were unheard of in the old days.

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You have six other superior services. The Duraclean processes have proved so superior that Duraclean Services are now available worldwide.

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Your future? You can start with a big operation...or many start alone or with only 1 or 2 servicemen. Each can render

Dreams of others have come true

"I'm now on an income level I never thought possible working for others, with my limited educational background."

G. M. Burns, Fla.

"I've never seen anything build as fast or as well as this dealership. The first year, I made more money than in my previous high salary job."

Fred Williams, La.

"The largest Duraclean job I've had was for 26 condominiums. Took 8 days and paid me \$2,780. I now employ 2 full time servicemen."

R. B. Thompson, Calif.

"My biggest job was at the airport Hilton Inn. It paid me \$4,290 and took 200 hours, including travel time. Duraclean is by far the best deal I've ever had."

John Ross, Ga.

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Wrestler

THE

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"War injuries left me severely handicapped, but I'm making a very good living in Locksmithing, thanks to your course. Word of mouth advertising has been enough to make my business a financial success from the start. Besides, I'm my own boss doing something I thoroughly enjoy."

says Glen Johnson,
Larned, Kansas.

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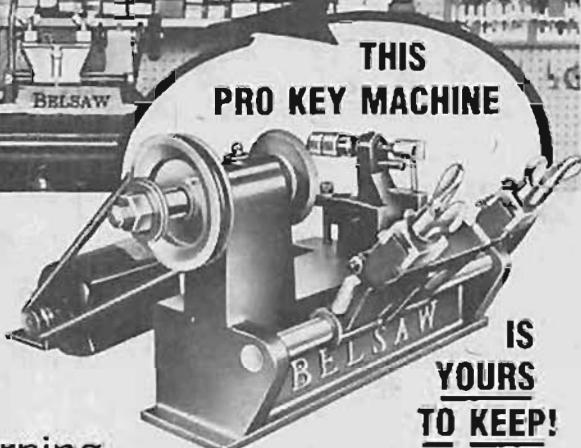
Henry Rivay, Los Angeles, Calif.

"I CLEARED \$110 LAST SATURDAY! I am doing a wonderful business thanks to your course in Locksmithing. It's a great business."

R. W. Davis, St. Louis, Missouri

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OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Champion: BOB BACKLUND
1—BOBBY DUNCUM
2—KEN PATERA
3—PAT PATTERSON
4—GREG VALENTINE
5—Ivan PUTSKI
6—SWEDE HANSON
7—TED DiBIASE
8—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
9—LARRY ZBYSZKO
10—HUSSEIN ARAB

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

Champion: NICK BOCKWINKEL
1—MAD DOG VACHON
2—GREG GAGNE
3—BILLY ROBINSON
4—VERNE GAGNE
5—SUPER DESTROYER II
6—JERRY LAWLER
7—BILL DUNDEE
8—LARRY HENNIG
9—STEVE OLSONOWSKI
10—DOUG GILBERT

MOST POPULAR

1—DUSTY RHODES
2—ANDRE THE GIANT
3—Ivan PUTSKI
4—WAHOO McDANIEL
5—MR. WRESTLING II
6—RICK STEAMBOAT
7—JACK BRISCO
8—MIKE GRAHAM
9—TOMMY RICH
10—BILL DUNDEE



DICK MURDOCH



LARRY ZBYSZKO



BILLY ROBINSON



ERNIE LADD

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

Champion: HARLEY RACE
1—DUSTY RHODES
2—TERRY FUNK
3—JIMMY SNUKA
4—MR. WRESTLING II
5—KILLER KOX
6—RIC FLAIR
7—JIM BRUNZELL
8—BRUISER BRODIE
9—DICK MURDOCH
10—WAHOO McDANIEL

TAG TEAMS

1—Ivan PUTSKI & TITO SANTANA
2—PAUL JONES & BARON VON RASCHKE
3—VERNE GAGNE & MAD DOG VACHON
4—RAY STEVENS & MIKE GRAHAM
5—TOMMY RICH & STAN HANSEN
6—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
7—THE SAMOANS
8—MR. HITO & MR. SAKURADA
9—DAVID & KEVIN VON ERICH
10—BOBO BRAZIL & SWEET BROWN SUGAR

MOST HATED

1—TERRY FUNK
2—JIMMY SNUKA
3—KEN PATERA
4—GREG VALENTINE
5—PAT PATTERSON
6—KILLER KOX
7—ERNIE LADD
8—HARLEY RACE
9—SUPER DESTROYER II
10—DORY FUNK JR.

WE DARE YOU!

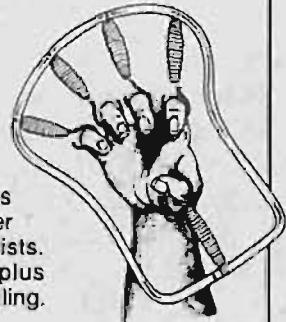
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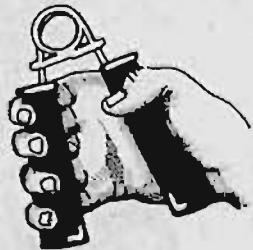
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POWER BUILDER

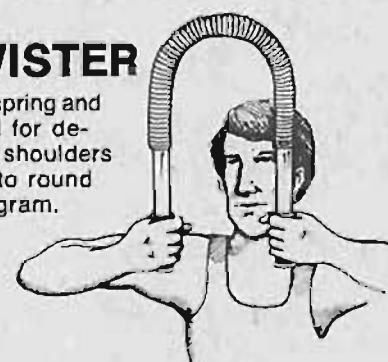


Made of chrome-plated heavy-duty steel with moulded vinyl grips. A powerful aid in the development of all the muscles in your upper body. W/ free course only \$13.95 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling.



CHINNING BAR

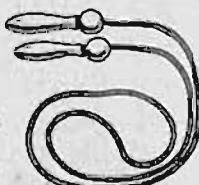
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YOU ASKED US

Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR question! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO BOX 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion!



"Hold it right there," Andre says. "Sure I appeared in *B.J. and the Bear*," but that certainly doesn't mean I'm thinking of leaving wrestling." Andre receives offers from Hollywood producers quite frequently, but his busy wrestling schedule severely limits his time.

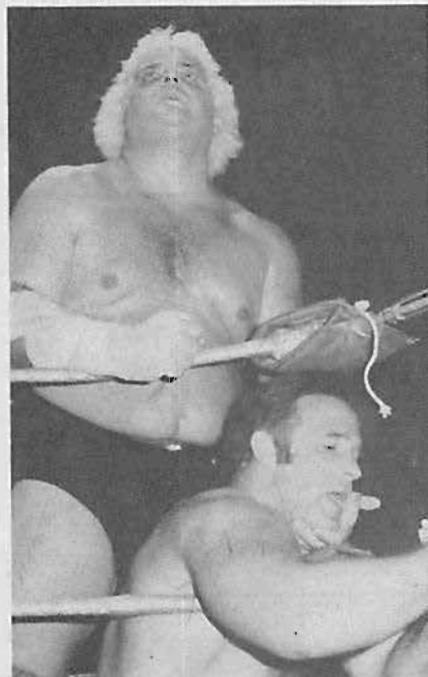
Q: Was I seeing things or was it really wrestling's Andre the Giant on the season premiere of *B.J. and the Bear*? If it was really him, is Andre thinking of turning to movies and leaving the wrestling world?

A: Yes, Andre the Giant, who has appeared on television's *The Six Million Dollar Man*, was on *B.J. and the Bear*. Despite numerous offers from publicity-crazed Hollywood

Pam Arthur, Waiteville, W.V.

agents and producers, Andre insists he is not yet ready to leave the squared circle for the world of motion pictures.

Q: Dusty Rhodes came on Georgia television with a cast on his arm and stated that Terry Funk broke it in three places. Is this true and what is Terry's viewpoint on this situation?—Russell Shattles, College Park, Ga.



His arm still bandaged, Dusty Rhodes battles maniac Mark Lewin. Rhodes' arm was broken by Terry Funk, causing his loss of the NWA title to Harley Race.

A: As most fans are aware, Funk interfered before that historic rematch between Rhodes and Harley Race for the NWA title. Resultantly, Rhodes' arm was broken. All fans can be warmed by the knowledge that Rhodes' arm is healed and the cast is off. As for Funk, he says, "I did it because that bum Rhodes deserved it. He's been bad-mouthing me, my brother, and my beloved Texas. If he was standing before me I'd pop his face again."

(Continued on page 46)



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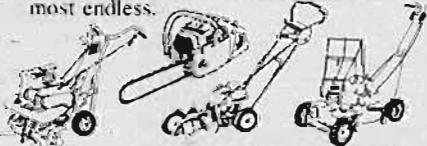
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Every issue, this magazine praises the noteworthy and damns those who violate the spirit of wrestling's dignity. The praiseworthy are given a "thumbs up," the disgraceful are marked with "thumbs down." Here is this month's roll of honor and shame

Thumbs Up

THUMBS UP to Jim Brunzell: Everyone enters wrestling hoping to attain stardom and a major title. The tragedy is that so few achieve this monumental success. Jim Brunzell is one of the lucky ones. In his recent victory over Ken Patera, he won the Mid-Atlantic title and the hearts of millions with his courageous persistence.

THUMBS DOWN to Terry Funk: The stench of his unprovoked assault on Dusty Rhodes prior to the NWA title match still clings to Florida arenas. Despite Funk's glib explanation, no real fan can ever forgive him.

THUMBS UP to Harley Race: It would have been easy for Race to take advantage of Funk's senseless attack. But Race was sickened by Funk's behavior. He's a champion and he wanted to regain his title fairly. If there were any doubts about Race's character, he dispelled them that evening.

THUMBS DOWN to Pat Patterson: Already, the Patterson-Backlund battles are evolving into one of wrestling's bloodiest feuds. Patterson has an evil reputation and his despicable conduct of late supports all the disgraceful rumors. The thought of Pat Patterson as WWF champion sends shudders throughout the wrestling community.

THUMBS UP to Mr. Wrestling II: Here is a man who has never deviated from the principles of right and wrong. Consistently, he has maintained his high moral fiber while charting a brilliant career. Bravo, II!

THUMBS DOWN to Greg Valentine: Is there anything left to offer Valentine's career except our contempt? He embodies all that is loathsome in the world: cruel, insensitive, ruthless. Surely there is someone out there who can stop him before it's too late.

THUMBS UP to Verne Gagne: The grand veteran of the AWA has never relaxed his pursuit of the AWA title. He finds current champion Nick Bockwinkel's personality and wrestling style very distasteful. Verne will not stop until he is champion again. And that is commendable.

THUMBS DOWN to Jimmy Snuka: When will they learn? Snuka is another victim of greed. Falling beneath Buddy Rogers' hypnotic spell, Snuka abandoned his fans and turned rulebreaker. His self-serving explanations fall on deaf ears. Shame on you, Snuka.

THUMBS UP to Bruno Sammartino: His continued excellence in both broadcasting and wrestling earns him respect. Despite vicious provocations from several rulebreakers, Sammartino maintains his poise and objectivity. In every sense, Sammartino is still the "Living Legend."

THUMBS UP to Bruiser Brodie: The shock of black hair still frames the intense face. And his aggressive style of wrestling has not changed. Yet Brodie appears more responsive to the fans. His friendship with the Von Erichs supports that assessment. □

Thumbs Down

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And Suddenly You Are Face-To-Face With A MUGGER...

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CORRESPONDENTS Reports

PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE—
Correspondent: Don Theriault—
Rugged Jerry Valiant challenged champion Bob Backlund for the WWF championship. The match was even for a while until Jerry seized control, at one point nearly pinning Backlund. But Backlund wriggled free and finished Valiant off with a crushing atomic spinebreaker.

In other bouts, Johnny Rodz stopped S.D. Jones . . . Fabulous

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Moolah and Suzette Ferriera bested Joyce Grable and Kitty Adams . . . Chief Jay Strongbow stomped Johnny Rodz.

NASHVILLE, TENN.—*Correspondent:* Tommy Abston—Andre the Giant won the \$5,000 winner's prize in the 25-man over-the-rope battle royal at Municipal Auditorium. Andre had to overcome some stiff challenges, including The Sheik. In fact, The Sheik proved to be Andre's toughest obstacle to the prize.

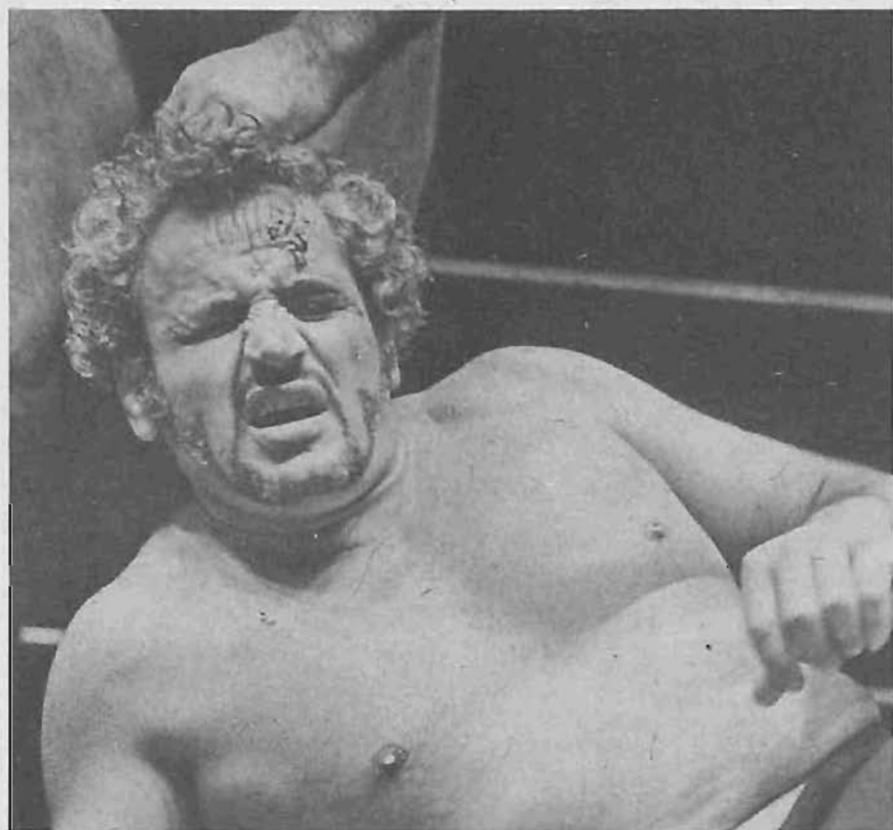
In other matches, Shawnee Bowynn and Jerry Barber defeated Red Terror and Ken Hawk . . . Len Rossi stopped Gene Spurlock . . . Prince Tonga halted Ricky Grey . . . Bob and Don Fulton fought to a draw with Ricky and Robert Gibson . . . Bobby Eaton and George Gulas overcame Tojo Yamamoto and Hans Schroder.

EL PASO, TEXAS—*Correspondent:* Enrique Gonzalez—This was a special appearance by The Sheik to rid Texas of Dick Murdoch. As the match started, The Sheik quickly opened a cut on Murdoch's forehead. The rest of the action took place outside the ring with both wrestlers bleeding and battling on the concrete floor. Originally, the referee declared a double disqualification. However, after The Sheik beat up the referee, the decision was changed and victory awarded to Murdoch.

In other bouts, El Gran Marcus whipped Don Factor . . . Gary Young toppled Alex Perez.

ORLANDO, FLA.—*Correspondent:* Earl Roop—A lights out match was scheduled between Dusty Rhodes and Dory Funk Jr. However, Terry Funk and Andre the Giant got involved in a melee prior to the match. Before anyone realized what happened, all four were battling and clawing. It was a fight to the finish! Eventually,

(Continued on page 14)



The Sheik and Dick Murdoch were both disqualified as the two bloody wrestlers battled outside the ring. The decision was overturned in Murdoch's favor, however, when The Sheik attacked the referee.

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CORRESPONDENT REPORTS

(Continued from Page 12)

Dory and Dusty squared off. Dory wished it never happened because Rhodes beat him black and blue!

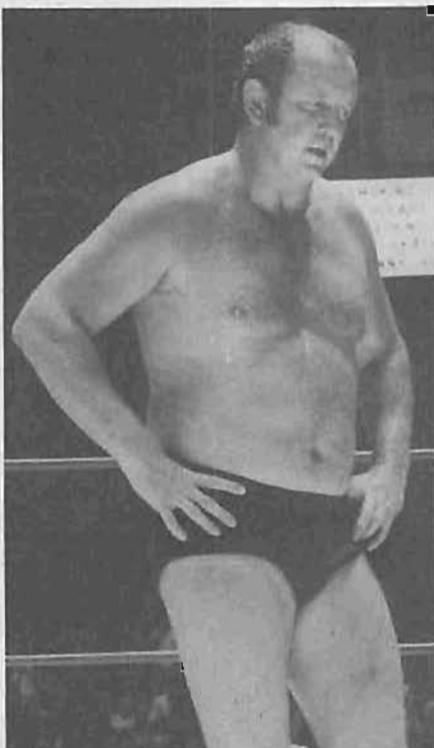
In other matches, Andre the Giant won by disqualification over Terry Funk . . . Mike Graham and Ray Stevens retained their Florida tag team title against Mr. Hito and Mr. Sakurada . . . Manny Fernandez won by disqualification over Bugsy McGraw . . . Sweet Brown Sugar and Steve Keirn stunned Thor the Viking and Brian St. John.



Stan Stasiak displays the fist that has sent so many wrestlers to the hospital. Stasiak was beaten by Buddy Rose in a unique "center jump coal miners glove match" when he was attacked from behind, while the referee lay unconscious.

ASHEVILLE, N.C.—*Correspondent:* Allen Ward—Paul Jones and Baron Von Raschke put their NWA tag team titles on the line against former champions Ric Flair and Blackjack Mulligan. Flair and Mulligan bounced the champs around the ring much of the fight. It took cheating for Jones and Von Raschke to retain their title.

In other matches, Johnny Weaver won by disqualification over Dewey Robertson . . . Cocoa Samoa and Cowboy Lang



Terry Funk and Andre the Giant had an impromptu meeting outside the ring while Dory Funk Jr. (pictured) and Dusty Rhodes battled inside.

defeated Swede Hanson and Billy the Kid . . . David Patterson smashed Joe Fury.

TACOMA, WASH.: *Correspondent:* Ken Hamblin—The Pavilion was the scene of the continuing grudge match between Stan Stasiak and Buddy Rose. This time a center jump coal miners glove match was the manner of battle. They would both face off like basketball centers as they jumped for the loaded glove. In the skirmish, the referee was knocked unconscious. That enabled Rose to assault Stasiak from behind for a blemished victory.

In other bouts, Don Leo Jonathan bounced Bruiser Gene Kelly . . . Steve Pardee drew with Rip Rodgers . . . Johnny Mantell bested Luke Williams . . . King Parsons and Johnny Mantell stomped the Fabulous Sheepherders. □

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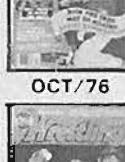
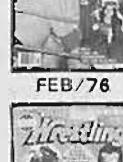
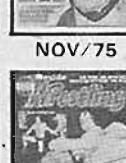
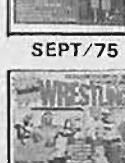
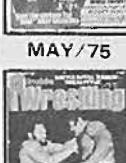
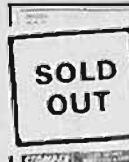
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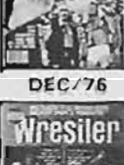
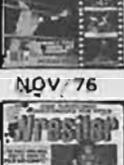
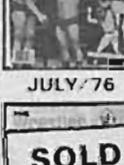
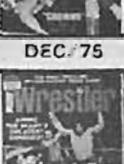
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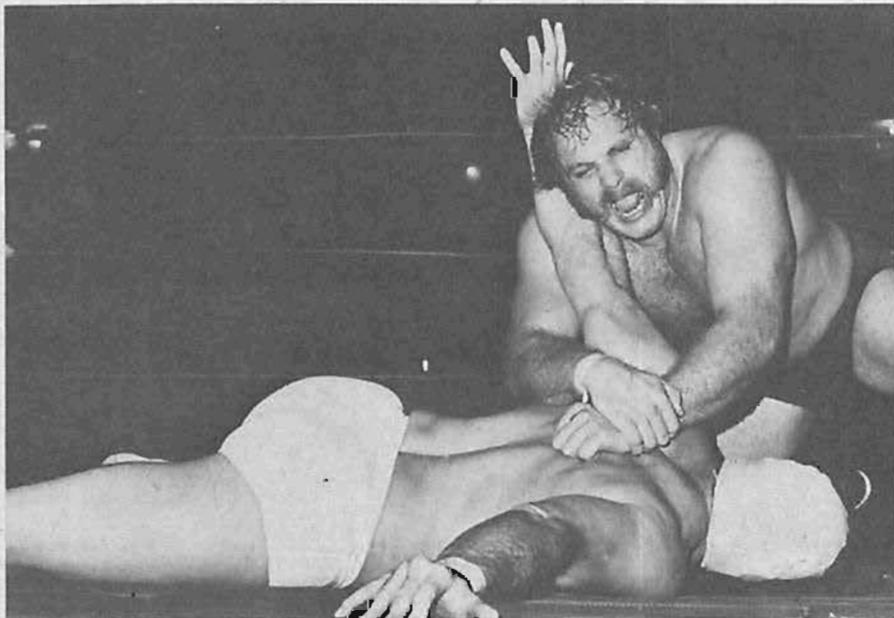
By BILL APTER

POPULAR BOB ARMSTRONG announced to the world that he had hired a "hit man" to help him in his war against Bobby Heenan's "family," consisting of Blackjack Lanza, Masked Superstar, and Killer Kox. The world was shocked when Bob unveiled his hired hand, the hated Ole Anderson!

"I'll do anything for money," Anderson admits, "even tag team with Armstrong." But now Anderson's values have changed.

Heenan has sent members of his family to attack Ole on several TV interviews. "No one does that to me," Anderson says. "I hate Heenan, his men, and all they stand for. I, along with Armstrong, Tommy Rich, and Wahoo McDaniel will run them out of Georgia forever!"

Anderson certainly has his hands full these days. He and Ernie Ladd are the Georgia tag team champions, but they are at war with each other! The Georgia commission has ordered the title stripped from the pair if they don't defend within 30 days (a tournament would be held to determine new champions). We'll keep you posted.



Ole Anderson, applying an armlock to Tim Woods, has been hired by Bob Armstrong to help battle Bobby Heenan's stable of wrestlers. While Georgia tag team champions Anderson and Ernie Ladd have been feuding, they have not defended the title and may soon be stripped of the belts.

The three Valiant Brothers—Johnny, Jimmy and Jerry—are all looking for individual matches against their former manager and friend Captain Lou Albano. "Give him to us as a single or we'll rassle him along with those Samoan flunkies of his. We want Albano's hide!" the Valiants declare.

Dusty Rhodes is back from Japan after a two week stint there.

"Stardust" says he is in the best shape of his life and vows to win the NWA title back from Harley Race within the next few months . . . Thor the Viking has been banned in Florida for a two-year period due to his treacherous actions in that state's arenas . . . Jim Brunzell proudly holds his Mid-Atlantic title after defeating

(Continued on page 52)

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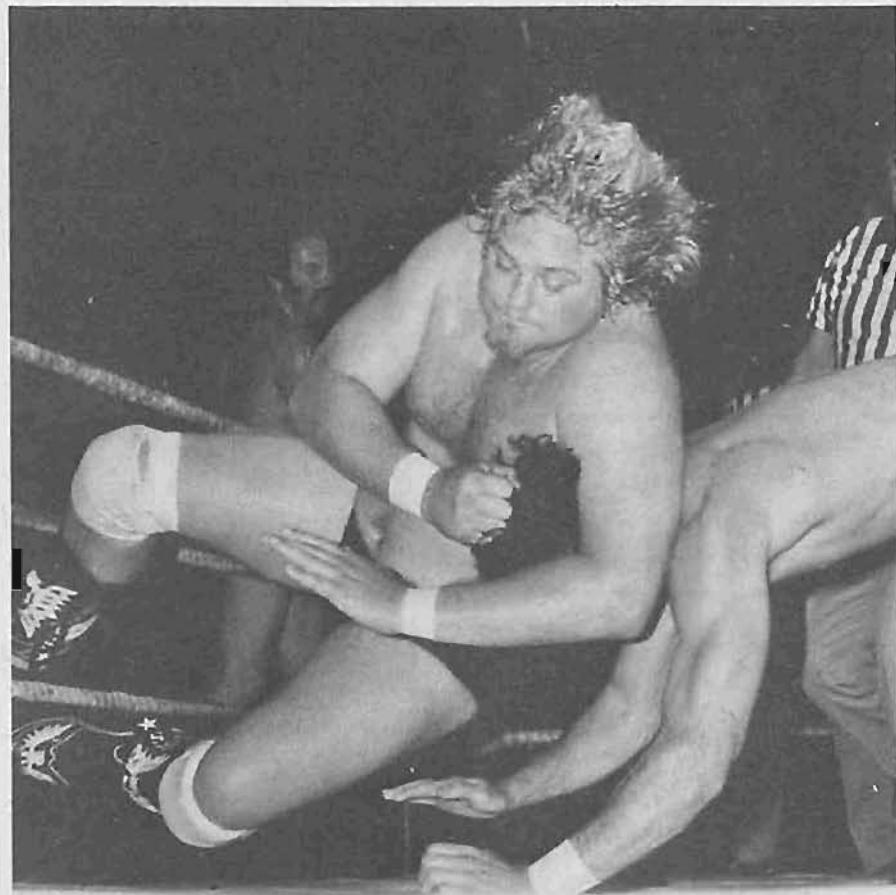
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Q&A

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important figure in the wrestling world.
It is your chance to meet wrestling's
biggest stars as they answer the
questions uppermost on the fans' minds



Bobby Duncum, one of the roughest wrestlers during the past 10 years, bulldogs Greg Gagne face-first to the canvas. Duncum has traveled the nation, he says, to find wrestlers man enough to stay in the ring with him.

Q: Bobby, why have you returned to the WWF?

A: I'm running out of places. Everywhere I go, my opponents fall apart.

Q: Is that why you rarely stay long in any place?

A: Yup. I go through opponents awful quick. Dudes are awful brittle nowadays. Seems they break at the slightest touch.

Q: You have anything to do with that?

A: Ain't my fault guys can't take punishment. Maybe they don't take their vitamins. (Laughs).

Q: Last time you were here, the Grand Wizard managed you. This time it's Lou Albano. Why the change?

A: I'm glad you asked that because I don't want no lemon heads talkin' like there was a rift between me and the Wiz. When I decided to come back to the WWF and teach Backlund a lesson, I called the Wiz. We had a nice, friendly chat and I asked him to manage me. The Wiz explained he was awful busy managing Swede Hanson and others and he didn't have the time for me. He suggested I give the Captain a call. Lou was quite pleased to hear from

BOB DUNCUM

Bobby Duncum is not called "Big" for nothing. A towering figure at 6-8, 300 pounds, Duncum is once again in the WWF. During his last tour in that area,

Duncum compiled a spectacular winning streak which catapulted him into the national spotlight and title matches against then-WWF champion Bruno Sammartino. Currently under the managerial reigns of Captain Louis Albano, Duncum claims to be better than ever. He vows to take Bob Backlund's belt before the end of the year. Our interview took place in the New York office of THE WRESTLER Magazine.



me and immediately, we started plotting.

Q: Sammartino has often said you were his toughest foe. What's your reaction to that?

A: Wish I could return the compliment. Sammartino isn't bad as overweight has-

beens go, but he's not the hardest guy I ever faced.

Q: Who would be?

A: I'd rather not say.

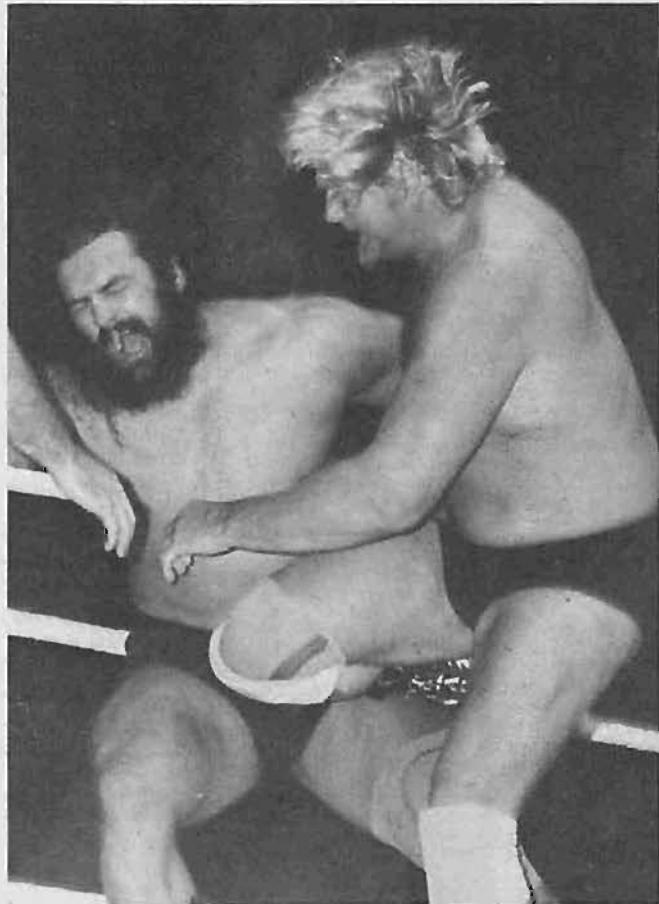
Q: So you're not interested in wrestling Sammartino?

A: Nah, what would I prove? He hasn't got the belt and

he wouldn't give me any competition. Sadly, he's the best in the federation. So I figure if I whipped Sammartino, I'd demolish Backlund.

Q: What sort of strategy would you employ against

(Continued on page 54)



Duncum pounds his fist into a fallen Bruno Sammartino (above left). Bruno has often called Duncum the toughest opponent he has ever faced. Bruiser Brodie feels the force of Duncum's powerful knee smash (above right).

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

WRESTLING MAGAZINE

It was simply titled "WRESTLING." And it was the first serious attempt to establish a magazine devoted entirely to professional wrestling which had a regular frequency and a world-wide distribution. The five issues of WRESTLING magazine are perhaps the most sought-after collector's back issues now made available to you.

MARCH 1951—Human Side, Wrestling Whirl, How to Wrestle, New Faces, Popularity Ratings, Strangler Lewis' Life, Sumo Wrestling, Yukon Eric's Life, Wrestler vs. Boxer, Strong Arms, June Byers' Life, George Hackenschmidt vs. Frank Gotch

\$30

BOXING & WRESTLING

After five issues, WRESTLING magazine changed its name to BOXING & WRESTLING. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the '50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.



NOV. 1951 Boxing—John L. Sullivan, TV Favorites, Lew Jenkins, News of the Month, Joe Louis Kayoed Lee Savold, How's Business, Harry Greb, Jimmy Carter Wins Lightweight Crown, Can Robinson Beat Maxim, Historic Photos, Jack Dempsey's Record, Results of the Month, Cartoon.

Wrestling—Superman vs. Thesz, Girl Star Nell Stewart, Rankings, The Garibaldi Clan, Bert Assirati, Greatest Matches, Gus Sonnenberg Beats Strangler Lewis.

\$25

DECEMBER 1951 Boxing—Maxim Beats Sailor Murphy, Gavilan Beats Billy Graham, Jim Corbett, Knockout Artists Best Prospects, New Champion Randy Turpin, Upsets, Jersey Joe Walcott, Ratings, Marciano Challenges Walcott, Sandy Saddler (Life Story), Tex Rickard, Famous Fights of the Past, Fights of the Month

Wrestling—Verne Gagne, Ratings, TV Announcer Dennis James, Sandor Szabo, Matches of the Month, Pet Peavey, Sammy Berg, Mae Weston

\$25

JANUARY 1952 Boxing—Pep vs. Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Janiro, Barney Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kibane, Rocky Marciano, Rankings, Knockouts

Wrestling—Yvon Robert, Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month, Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Ruffy Silverstein, Ratings, Londos vs. Shikat

\$25

FEBRUARY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Trouble with Boxing, Young Prospects, Tony Canzoneri, Bob Fitzsimmons, Rocky Graziano, Unusual Incidents, Predictions for 1952, Willie Lewis vs. Sailor Burke, Ratings (Marciano Fighter of Month), Tex Rickard Story

Wrestling—Dirty Dusek, Coors Comb, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, The Original Terrible Turk, How to Improve Wrestling, Ratings

\$25

MARCH-APRIL 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Million Dollar Gates, Gene Tunney's Record, Heavyweights of 1952, Trouble with Boxing, Jim Jeffries, Henry Armstrong, Dumb Dan Morgan, Rocky Marciano, Jersey Joe Walcott, Tex Rickard Story, Ezzard Charles, Jimmy Carter vs. Art Aragon

Wrestling—Fred Von Schacht, Frank Gotch Record, Midgets, Wrestling Whirl, Millie Stafford, Matches of Month, Max Baer in Wrestling, Ratings, Promoter Billy Thom of Indianapolis, Good Old Days

\$25

MAY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Greatest Heavyweights, Johnny Dundee, Harry Matthews, Ratings, Benny Leonard's Record, Tex Rickard Story, Kid Gavilan, Battling Nelson vs. Ad Wolgast Classic, Tommy Burns, New York Boxing Commissioner Bob Christenberry, Bobby Dykes

Wrestling—Whipper Watson, Old Timers, Wrestling Whirl, Verne Gagne, Great Gama, Matches of Month, Primo Carnera, Ratings, Strangler Lewis, Girl Wrestling in Germany

\$25

JUNE 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmeeling, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Stillman's Gym, Chico Vejar, Flyweights and Bantamweights, Tex Rickard Story, Paddy DeMarco, Max Baer's Record

Wrestling—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz

\$25

JULY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Joe Baksi, Jess Willard, Manager Al Weil, Abe Attell, Danny Nardino, Fighters Are Human, Tex Rickard Story, Famous Filipinos, Norman Hayes, Ratings

Wrestling—Lord Blears, My Toughest Bouts by Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Texas Rasslin', Ratings, Ivan Kamiroff, It Began With Milo, Good Old Days

\$25

AUGUST 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Baglieri, Jack Dempsey, Keeny Teran and Gil Cadilli, Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tender, TV From Miami, From Knockdown to Victory, Ratings

Wrestling—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Ratings, Adrian Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Mighty Atlas

\$25

SEPTEMBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Araji, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields

Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Lou Thesz's Record, Ratings, Matches of Month, Tim Geohagen, William Muldoon, Wrestling Whirl

\$25

OCTOBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles, Carter loses to Salas, etc.), Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketchel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmeeling, Ratings, Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello

Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of Month, Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne

\$25

DECEMBER 1952 Boxing—Rocky Marciano, Highlights, Rex Layne Beats Ezzard Charles, etc., Fighting French, Johnny Brattion, Jackie 'Kid' Berg, Boxing Humor, Tommy Garr, Comparing old and new greats, Dave Davey, Primo Carnera, Ratings, Dressing Room Drama, Dramatic Incidents

Wrestling—Killer Kowalski, Record of Gene Stanlee, Jack

\$25

DECEMBER 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Marciano kayoed Roland LaStarza (title), Fights of Month, Referee's Problem, Tony Galento and Manager Joe Jacobs, Philadelphia History, Five Best Lightweight Bets, Middleweight History, Battling Siki, Primo Carnera Kills Ernie Schaaf, Jimmy Slattery, Ratings

Wrestling—Lucky Simonovich, Ratings, Mighty Alias, Reggie Lisowski, Yvon Robert, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Wrestling Whirl

\$25

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues are very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For fastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

O'Reilly, Ratings, June Byers, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Tough Way To Make A Living, Hollywood Promoter Hugh Nichols

\$30

JANUARY 1953 Boxing—Marciano wins title from Walcott, Highlights of Month, The Negro in Boxing, Tommy Collins, Max Baer Story, Ted 'Kid' Lewis, Johnny Gonsalves, Managers' Mistakes, Ratings, Kid Herman, Sparring Partners, Gerald Dryer, Human Punching Bags

Wrestling—Fred Atkins, Rocca's Record, Disgusted Fans, Ratings, Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Ronnie Etchinson, Matches of Month, Al "Dragon" Tucker

\$40

MARCH 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Highlights (Ezzard Charles Best, Cesar Eblon, Johnny Brattion over Joe Morel), New Jersey Champion in Every Division, Gen

Flanagan, Joe Louis Story, Promoter Sam Silverman, Cleveland Williams, Boxing Jinxes, Jack Delaney, Ratings, What Makes a Champion, Johnny Risko

Wrestling—The Buddy Rogers Story, Fred Atkins, Wrestler vs. Boxer, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Mule Kick Marin, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Matt Kosternich, Rick Starr, Lou Thesz vs. Gene Stanlee

\$30

APRIL 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Billy Graham vs. Joey Giardello, Tiger Jones vs. Johnny Brattion), Pat McMurtry, Billy Miske, Ezzard Charles, Undefeated Johnny Saxton, Fidel LaBarba, Luis Firpo, Archie Moore Wins Title at Age 36, Jimmy McLarnin, Jack Dillon

Wrestling—Marvin Mercer, Matches of Month, Record of Yukon Eric, Killer Kowalski vs. Yukon Eric, Man Mountain Dean, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Promoter Al Mayer, Trading Holds

\$30

MAY 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Danny Nardino upsets Jake LaMotta, Rocky Castellan beats Tiger Jones), Kid Gavilan kayoed Chuck Davey to retain crown, Roland LaStarza tops Rex Layne, The Dundee Brothers, Baltimore's Great Fighters, Saga of John Morrissey, Tommy Loughran, Ratings, Middleweight Muddle, Charlie White

Wrestling—Fred Curry, Elvira Snodgrass, Matches of Month, Great Togo, Ruffy Silverstein, Trading Holds, Record of Buddy Rogers, Ratings, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs

\$30

OCTOBER 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights of the Month, Dan Bucceroni, Promoter Lew Raymond, Arthur Persley, Light Heavyweight History, Best Heavyweight Bets, Jackie 'Kid' Berg upsets Tony Canzoneri, Floyd Patterson, Charlie Phil Rosenberg, Your Boxing I.Q., Ratings

Wrestling—Leo Nomellini, Johnny Barend, Ratings, Record of Sonny Myers, Violet Vian, Matches of Month, Frank Gotch, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Trading Holds

\$30

DECEMBER 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Marciano kayoed Roland LaStarza (title), Fights of Month, Referee's Problem, Tony Galento and Manager Joe Jacobs, Philadelphia History, Five Best Lightweight Bets, Middleweight History, Battling Siki, Primo Carnera Kills Ernie Schaaf, Jimmy Slattery, Ratings

Wrestling—Lucky Simonovich, Ratings, Mighty Alias, Reggie Lisowski, Yvon Robert, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Wrestling Whirl

\$30

FEBRUARY 1954 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez, Mickey Walker, Hein Teff Hoff, Featherweight History, Boxing Quiz, Luther McCarty, Joe Louis vs. Bob Pastor, Jack Johnson vs. Tommy Burns, Stanley Ketchel, Harry Greb, Ratings

Wrestling—Bill Melby, Primo Carnera, Matches of Month, Raphael Halpern—The Wrestling Rabbi, Ratings, Len Hughes, Fan Clubs, Leo Nomellini, Wrestling Whirl, Remember When

\$35

MARCH 1954 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, 'Red Top' Davis, Bantamweight History, Commissioner Frank Wiener, Earl Wals, Ratings, Power of Punch, Bill Battalino vs. Kid Chocolate, Amateurs vs. Your Boxing I.Q., Ace Hurtikens

Wrestling—Dennis Clary, Sando Kovacs, Ratings, Doty

Funk St. Matches of Month, Gossip, Wrestling Whirl, Hans Schmidt, Trading Holds, Record of Lord Bears \$35

MAY 1954 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Former Champions Speak Out, Fights of Month, Rocky Castillo, Joey Giambra, Stanley Ketchel, Tommy Burns, Billy Peacock, Henry Armstrong Wins Title From Petey Sarron, Training, Boxing Quiz, Jimmy Wilde, Ratings
Wrestling—Don Leo Jonathan, Eric Pederson, Trading Holds, Top Money Makers, Tarzan White, Matches of Month, Duke Keomaka, Fan Clubs, Remember When \$35

JULY 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, French Invasion, Archie Moore Can Beat Mariano, Bat Masterson, Gil Turner, Harlem Tommy Murphy, Holly Milns, Vince Dundee vs. Len Harvey, Vince Martinez, Your Boxing I.O., Ratings, Bud Taylor
Wrestling—Tor Yamao, The Larsen Brothers, New Jersey Stars, Ida Mae Martinez, Matches of Month, Frank Jara, Gossip, Fan Clubs, Wrestling Whirl \$35

AUGUST 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Mariano vs. Charles Fight, Fight of Month, Manager Al Weill, Britain's John Sullivan, At Davis, Hurricane Jackson, Ratings, Battling Nelson's Life, Vince Martinez, Benny Leonard vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Carmine Fiore, Joe Lynch, Quiz
Wrestling—Ray Eckert, Ratings, 'Treacherous' Phillips, June Byers, Matches of Month, Gypsy Joe, Gossip, Trading Holds \$35

OCTOBER 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Fighting Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giardello Says Hell Kayo Bob Olson, Harry Greb's Life, Cisco Andrade, Weighting Ins, Tiberio Miri Kayoes Randy Turpin, Jack Dempsey vs. Bill Brennan, Walter Cartier, TV Is Killing Boxing, Quiz, Ratings, Lew Tender
Wrestling—Bobo Brazil, Gloria Barratini, Results of Month, Al Kashey, Wrestling Whirl, Rocky Colombo, Light Heavyweight Champs, Fan Clubs, Trading Holds \$35

NOVEMBER 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Can Mariano Be Beaten? Sam Langford's Life, Al Andrews, Managers Art Winch & Sam Pian, Billy Lauderdale, Max Schmeling vs. Harry Thomas, Carmelo Costa, Quiz, Ratings, Promoter Norm Rothschild, Stanley Ketchel vs. Jack O'Brien, Maxie Rosenbloom
Wrestling—Neil Stewart, Baron Leone, Canadian Champs, Enrique Torres, Matches of Month, Art Neilson, Wrestling Whirl, Dick Raines-Al Kashey Feud, Gossip \$35

DECEMBER 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Mariano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMarco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz
Wrestling—Bobo Orion, Matches of Month, Cowboy Carlson, Mars Bennett, California Champs, Al Costello, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

FEBRUARY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez Says "I'll Beat Mariano," Billy Petroleo's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stillman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Chojynski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin
Wrestling—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Vanni, Verne Gagne, Speaks Out, Matches of Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club \$25

MARCH 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Criqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All, Charley Powell, Young Grillo, Kid McCoy vs. Tom Sharkey, Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez
Wrestling—Gorgeous George, Matches of Month, Jack Witzig, Ike Eakins, Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

APRIL 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Mariano, Robert Cohen, Joe Choynski's Life, Strike By Managers' Guild, Boardwalk, Billy Smith, Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nicks Arena, TV Fights of 1954, Paul Berlenbach, Quiz, Ratings \$25

MAY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Carter, Trainer Whitley Bernstein's Secrets, Pancho Villa's Life, Frankie Rytif, Ray Robinson's Comeback, Les Darcy, Cherley Norkus, Max Baer Kayoes, Max Schmeling, Bob Fitzsimmons Quiz, Ratings, Barney Ross
Wrestling—Primo Carnera, Roy McCrory, Matches of Month, Southwest Champs, Great Scott, Killer Kowalski Strength Secrets, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up of Buddy Rogers \$20

JUNE 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Eduardo Lausse, Tony Canzoneri's Life, Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones, How Mariano is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life, Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Gneiz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Conez, Matches of Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Billy Varga \$25

JULY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Rocky Mariano Crushes Don Cockell, Fights of Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzoneri's Life (Conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite at St. Nicks, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walton, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—"Tiger" Joe Marsh, Matches of Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscle, Was Henri DeGlané a Nazi?, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Talaber \$25

AUGUST 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritz Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopez, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Ratings
Wrestling—"Legs" Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pinup of Leo Nomellini \$25

SEPTEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Castellan, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham, Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurtry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo Nomelline, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of Month, Crazy Kalmikoffs, Hans Schnabel, Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller \$25

OCTOBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, The Real Mariano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Joe Benjamin, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Hans Herman, Matches of Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kimji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Bears \$25

NOVEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Mariano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killor? Bud Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs. Rufe Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Matches of Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindu Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pat O'Connor \$25

DECEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Vince Martinez, Commissioner Julie Hefland, Georges Carpenter's Life, Ray Layne, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Greatest of All Time, Hurricane Jackson, Your Boxing I.O., Ratings, Jack Johnson Double Cross, Tommy Gibbons \$30

Wrestling—Larry Moquin, Matches of Month, Red Berry Farmer Burns, Ratings, Paul Ballargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Lou Thesz, Gossip

JANUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bob Olson, Joe Lynch, Ray Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Why Women Wrestle, Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny, Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

WRESTLING REVUE

WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964) is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's treasures are very limited.



Fall 1959

The first issue, edited and published by Stanley Weston, established a new style for wrestling magazines. This classic first issue, printed on heavy, coated paper, contains eight pages of full color pictures, plus front and back covers, also in dazzling full color. Fifteen years ago, this extremely rare issue was being sold for \$50 per copy, the same price we are offering it to you now \$50

FALL 1960	.....	\$35
SUMMER 1960	.....	\$35
WINTER 1960	.....	\$30
SUMMER 1961	.....	\$20
APRIL 1963	.....	\$10
JUNE 1963	.....	\$10
JUNE 1964	.....	\$35
AUGUST 1964	.....	\$35
OCTOBER 1964	.....	\$30
DECEMBER 1964	.....	\$35

TV WRESTLING ALBUM



THE CLASSIC 1960 TV WRESTLING ALBUM

The first and still the Classic Album of all time. All 68 pages printed on the finest, heavy, coated paper. The Full Page portraits, 50 in all, of the world's greatest wrestlers of that era, some of whom are still active today, are all neatly bordered, ready for framing. And that cover! Ah, probably the greatest portrait of a wrestler ever taken, in full color, Buddy Rogers, champion at that time, is the subject.

SEND ME THE BACK ISSUES I'VE LISTED BELOW
Please write in magazine name and date
For Example: "BOXING & WRESTLING Jan./1952"

1 _____ 4 _____
2 _____ 5 _____
3 _____ 6 _____

In The Event Any Of The Above Magazines Are Sold Out, I Will Accept The Substitute Issues Listed Below

1 _____ 3 _____
2 _____ 4 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

SEND TO: T.V. SPORTS
Box 48
Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Dusty looks in good form as he lands an elbowsmash to Mark Lewin's forehead (left), but Lewin easily took the upper hand (above and right).

At first, people brushed it off. Then they became somewhat concerned. Now it seems evident—Dusty Rhodes is slumping. But why? Was he seriously injured by Terry Funk or is it post-title blues? The possibilities are explored

The Question Confronting Wrestling: HAS DUSTY

UICKLY! WHAT DO Jack Brisco, Terry Funk, Harley Race, and Dusty Rhodes have in common? Oh, it seems easy. Sure, they've all held the NWA title at some time or another. But more than links these four disparate personalities.

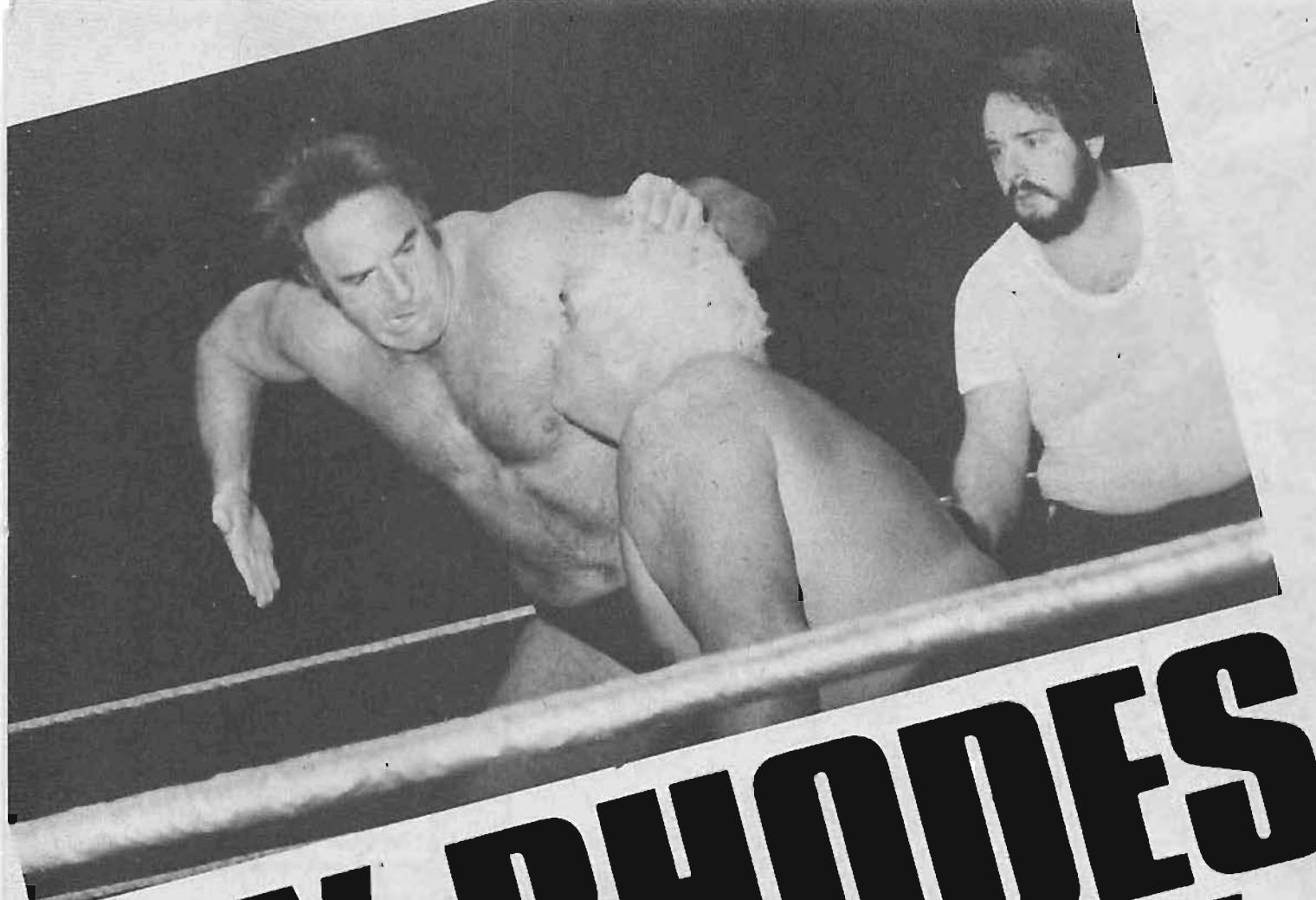
After Brisco lost the title, his game declined sharply. Terry Funk retired for a while after losing the championship. Harley Race's post-title bouts were characterized by an unusual sluggishness, nearly approaching apathy.

Now Dusty Rhodes is slumping. Since that fateful night in Orlando when Terry Funk, Harley Race, and a broken arm combined to rip the title from Rhodes, the

American Dream has been, well, something less than brilliant.

"I don't know what it is," Rhodes said, shaking his head. "I'm just not doing it out there."

Whether this is a transitory slump or a permanent loss is something our distinguished panel addressed themselves to in a recent session in Florida. Due to the controversial and delicate situation these experts found



STY RHODES "LOST IT?"

themselves in anonymity was requested and granted.

"Not one man in wrestling compares with Dusty Rhodes when it comes to intensity," said a member of the panel, a gray-haired man smoking a long cigar. "That's why I think he's in danger of blowing it."

"Emotion is an integral part of Rhodes' makeup in the ring.

Without that unharnessed energy and drive, Rhodes is a guy named Joe. And I think the way he lost the title demoralized him."

The manner in which Rhodes lost his beloved belt was the crucial component, according to the panel.

"If Rhodes had just lost it, he could have come back with both feet on the ground," remarked a short, heavy-set man with thinning

black hair and piercing blue eyes. "Unlike the others, Rhodes could have accepted the adversity, no matter the painful disappointment. Rhodes has a lot of character like that."

"But Rhodes was crushed the way Funk interfered," the man continued. "Dusty has pride. When he beat Race, he was flying.

(Continued on page 50)

Beyond the Squared Circle



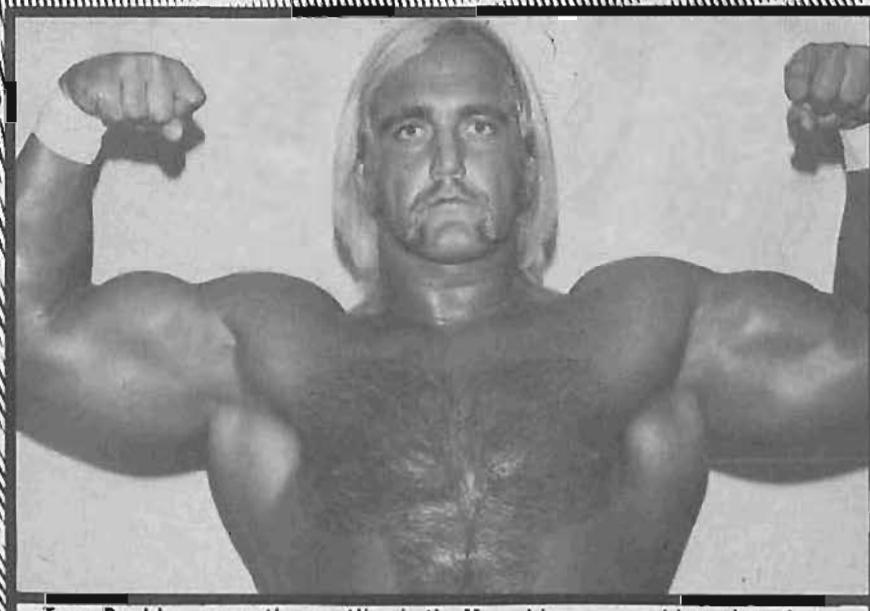
Don Curtis, formerly Mark Lewin's tag team partner, is now a successful promoter in Jacksonville.



Bob Geigel, a very successful wrestler since the late '60s, is the NWA's top executive.



Andy Kaufman, a star of television's "Taxi" and a frequent guest on "Saturday Night Live" grapples with Dusty Rhodes.



Terry Boulder, currently wrestling in the Memphis area, would much prefer to be referred to as the Incredible Hulk. Boulder, who has 22-inch biceps, claims to possess twice the strength of television's "Incredible Hulk," Lou Ferrigno.



Sweet Brown Sugar's fans come in all ages. The high-flying masked man has quite a following.



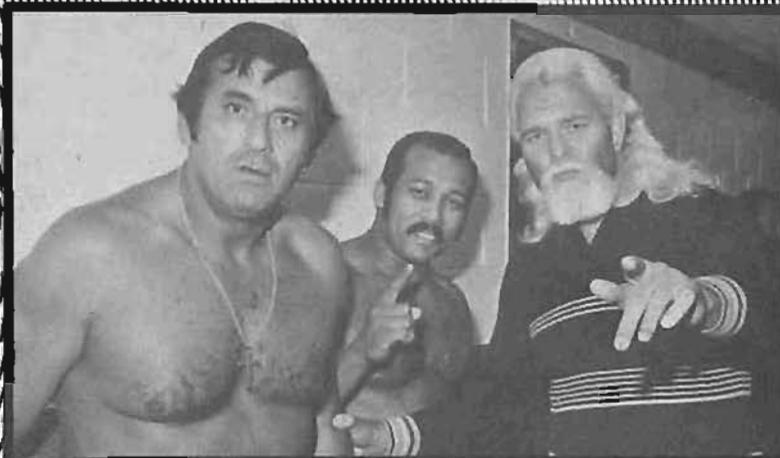
Prior to a match, Jerry Brisco sits alone to prepare himself mentally.



Freddie Blassie, manager of some of the most notorious villains over the past five years, arrives at Madison Square Garden.



Swede Hanson chuckles over Bob Backlund's picture in PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED. "This guy's a champion? Hah!"



The rulebreakers were captured by our photographer while comparing strategies in the Garden dressing room. From left to right: Baron Mikel Scicluna, Johnny Rodz, and Handsome Jimmy Valiant.



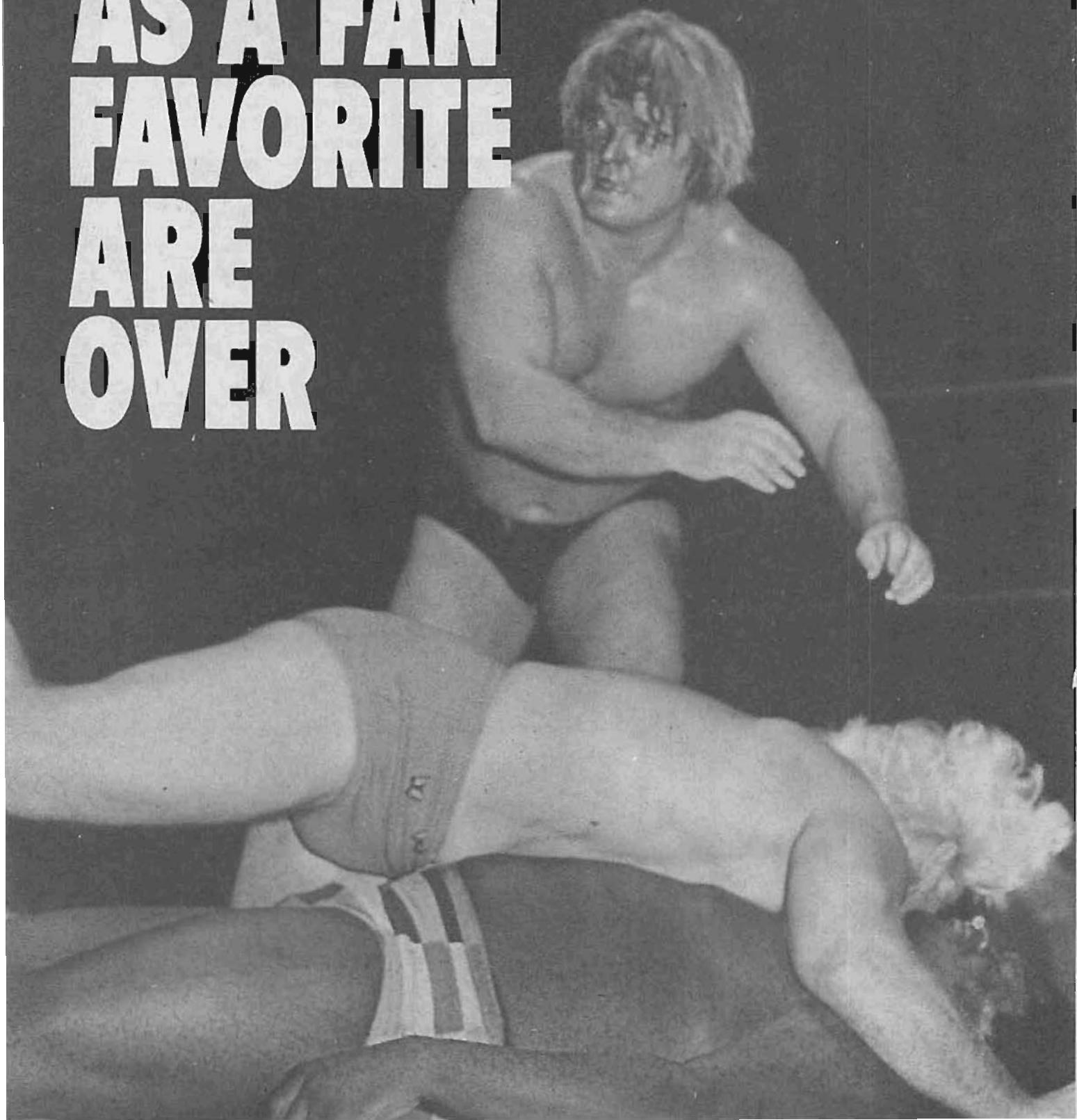
Florida's former tag team champions Mr. Hito (left) and Mr. Sakurada (kneeling) pose with their manager, Mr. Hatori.

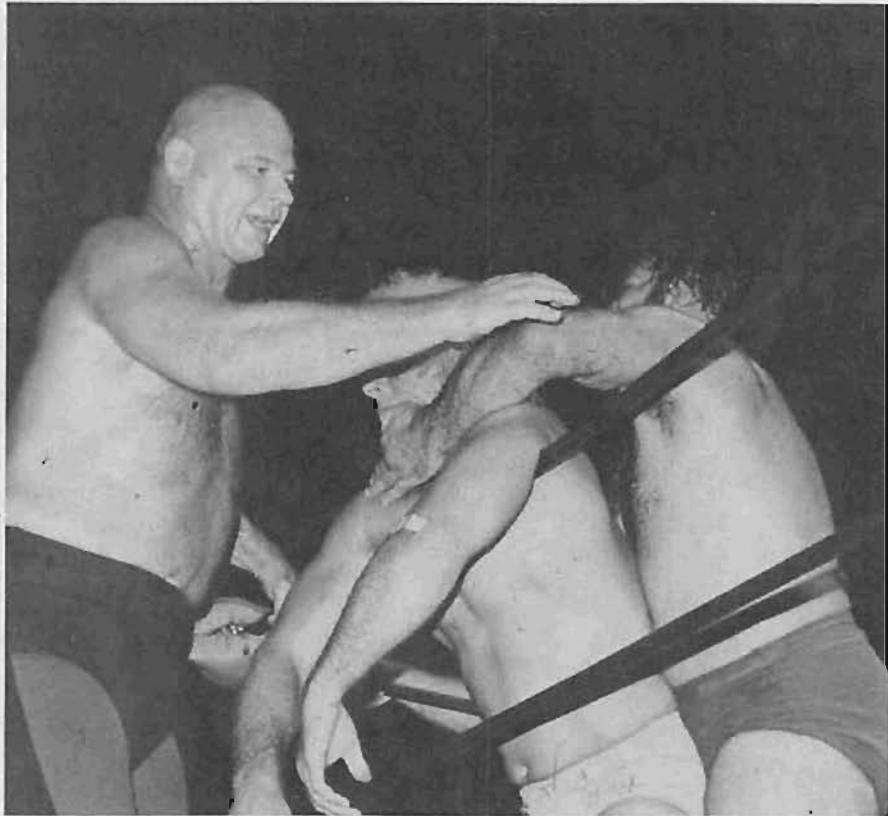


Jerry Lawler, who recently began feuding with his former partner and best friend, Bill Dundee, stares at his number one fan. Lawler spends the better part of an hour glaring into the mirror before a match.

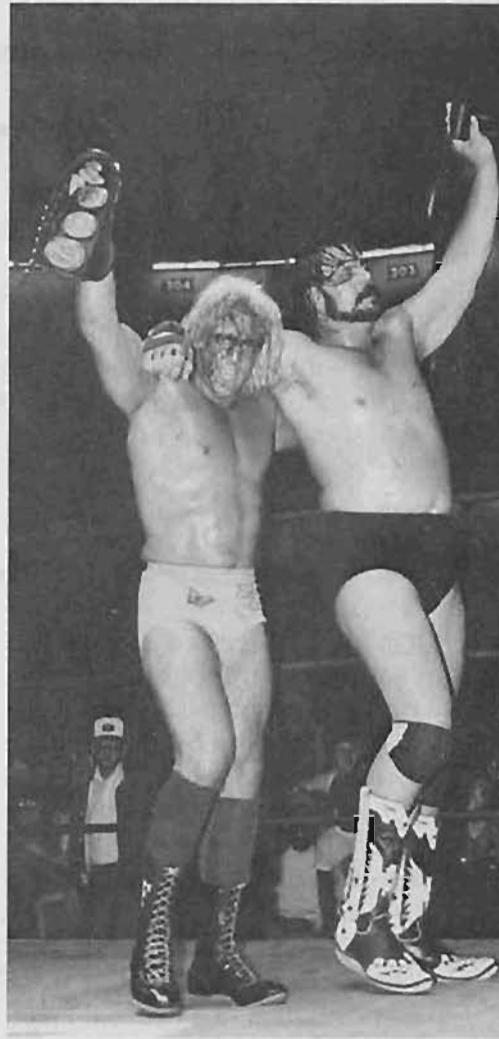
Why the Experts Say

RIC FLAIR'S DAYS AS A FAN FAVORITE ARE OVER





According to a wrestling expert, Ric Flair's personality might be too volatile to continue to team with established fan favorites. Left: Ric is doubleteamed by Baron Von Raschke and Paul Jones. Below: Ric and Blackjack Mulligan are victorious.



SOL KUGEL SIGHED and pushed away the half-eaten sandwich. His small, windowless office appeared cramped. Behind his squat frame was a jagged line of wrestling photographs. Men bloody. Men victorious. Men in combat. Off to both sides were metal file cabinets. A top drawer on the battered hulk off to the right was opened and spilling its guts. Files and photos.

Another sigh and Kugel sipped his coffee. It was lukewarm, unlike his opinions. Sol Kugel is what is known as an expert. He has watched Mid-Atlantic wrestling for longer than he'd like to admit. Of all the so-called experts, Kugel's words and opinions are respected most throughout the area.

So when a man like Sol Kugel lights a long cigar, leans back in his swivel desk chair and blows smoke rings, you know something is about to happen. Kugel didn't disappoint.

"Ric Flair is a helluva wrestler," Sol said, exhaling gray smoke. "I've always felt he had the potential to be one of the greats. Maybe a champ. Something in the way he wrestles out there reminds me of other greats, but his wires are a little crossed."

"I recognize that wrestling isn't logical. You can't expose mere mortals to the sort of pressure and attention they get and expect to predict what they'll be like," Kugel said, returning to his sandwich.

"In assessing wrestlers, I keep one thought foremost in

my head." Kugel leaned forward, his cigar poised, ready to make a point. "These guys are only human. They have faults and good points just like everyone else. You can't look at them like they were machines. You have to incorporate every variable you can."

Kugel shrugged and tossed a

(Continued on page 48)

Ric Flair has basked in the sunshine of the fans' love for several months now. But suddenly, a dark cloud looms on the horizon. Greg Valentine has returned to Mid-Atlantic wrestling. And he vows to turn his former partner back into a hated rulebreaker. Do the experts think he can do it?

Obsessions can drive even the most normal of men right to the edge of insanity. Steve Keirn is obsessed. In his mind, he must avenge the humiliation of Dusty Rhodes. He must destroy Terry Funk and Harley Race . . . even if he destroys himself first

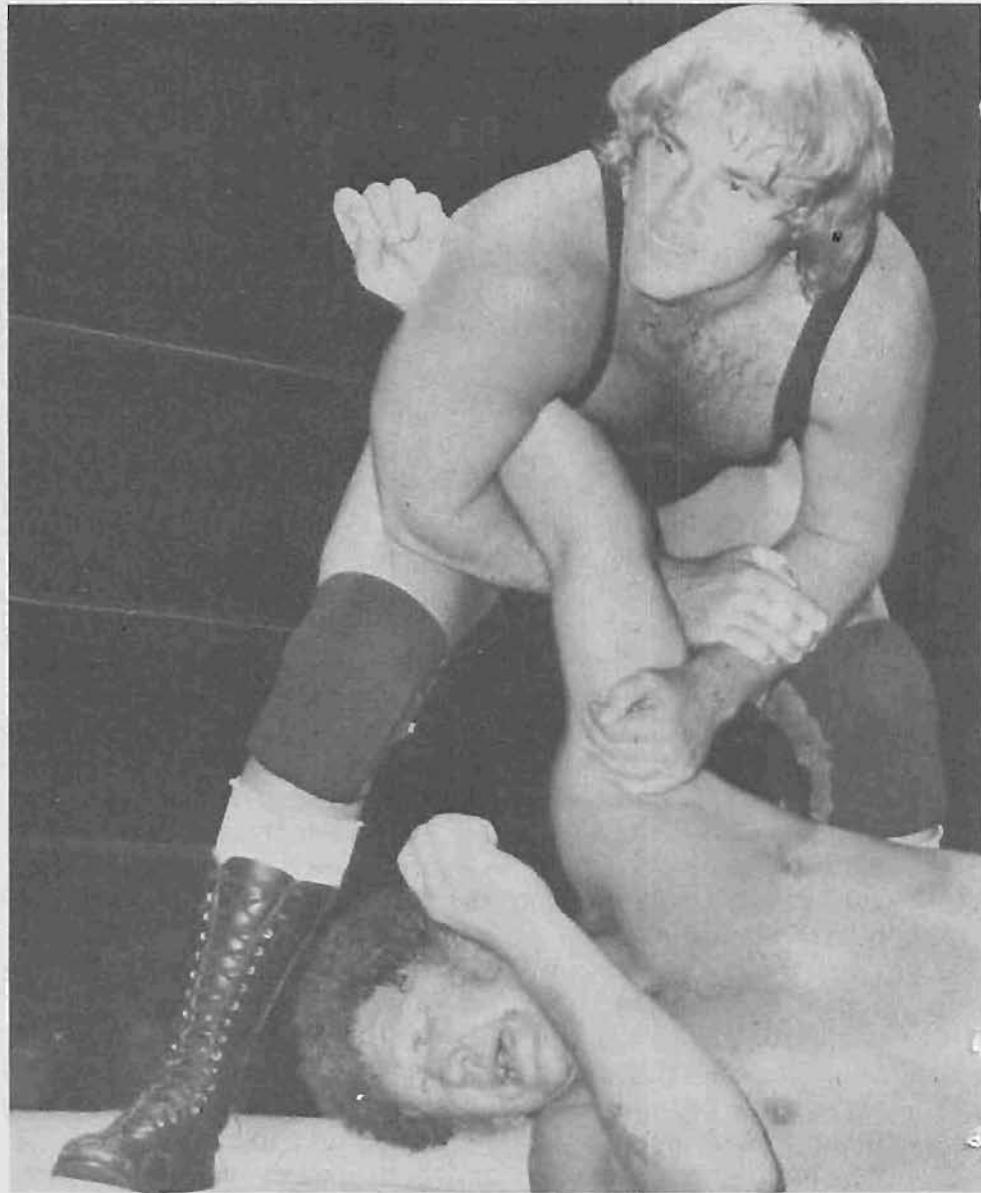
STEVE KEIRN has not spoken to Dusty Rhodes since the tragic ending to Dusty's five-day reign as NWA champion. He couldn't.

"I was absolutely crushed when it happened," Keirn said. "At that point I made a vow to avenge the incident. I intend to do it if it's the only thing I ever accomplish for the rest of my life."

Keirn wasn't actually present when Terry Funk attacked Dusty and broke his arm prior to his NWA heavyweight title defense against Harley Race, the man he took the belt from five days earlier. He had already wrestled on that card in Orlando, Florida, and was in the dressing room. By the time he and several other wrestlers reached the ring to aid Rhodes, Funk had departed with police protection.

"In my entire life, I never knew what hate was all about," Keirn said. "I thought I hated, but I guess I never really did. I know that now because the feelings I have for Funk are feelings I have never experienced in the past.

"And then there is the matter of that sniveling coward Race. If he thought he was truly worthy of that title, he wouldn't have wrestled



WILL AVENGING DESTROY ST



An obviously distressed Steve Keirn helps Dusty Rhodes to the dressing room after losing his NWA title to Harley Race (left). Keirn is obsessed with revenge. His armbar has Race in considerable discomfort (below) and his sleeper almost leaves Race in a semiconscious state (right).

PHOTOS BY BILL OTTEN

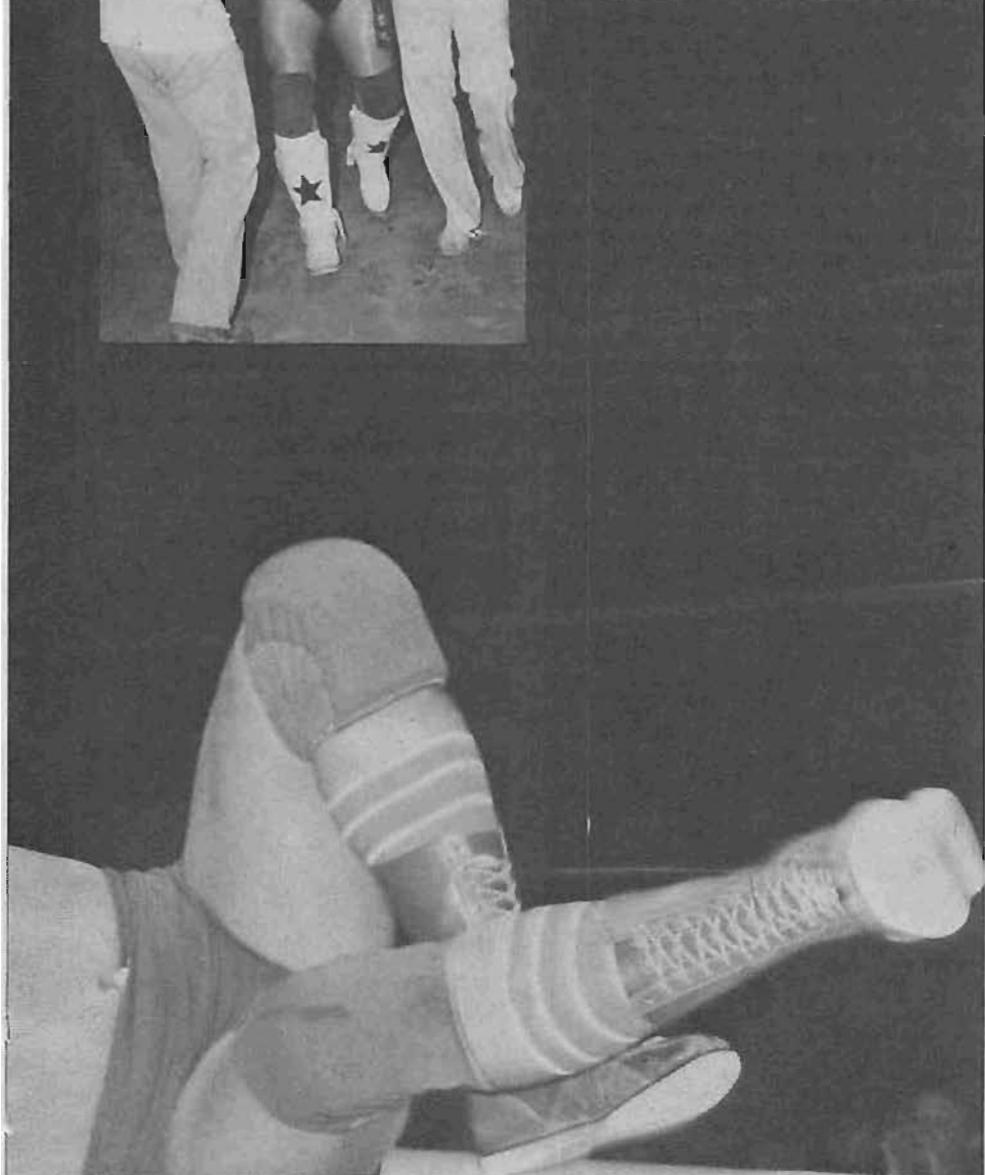


Rhodes once Dusty's arm was broken. Geez, Dusty sure wouldn't have wrestled *him* under those conditions."

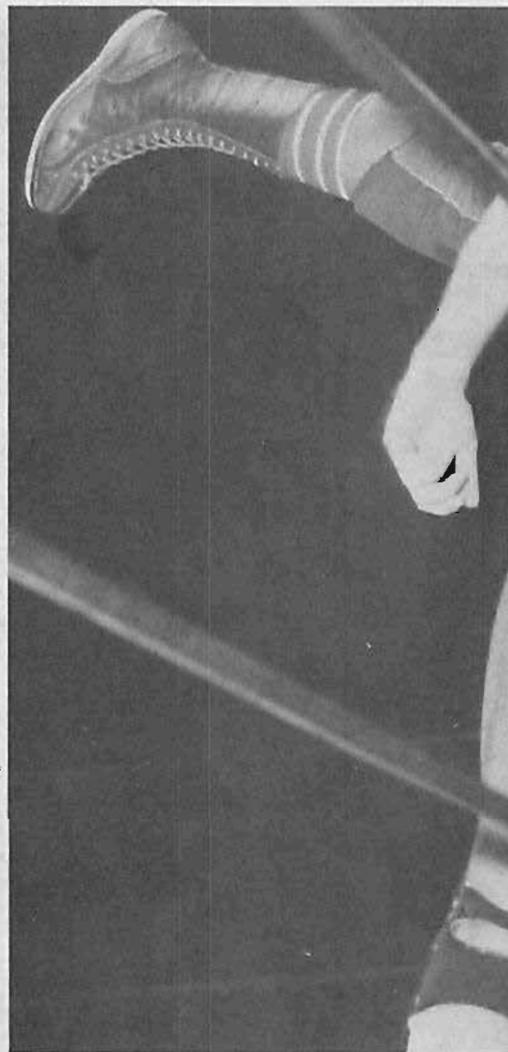
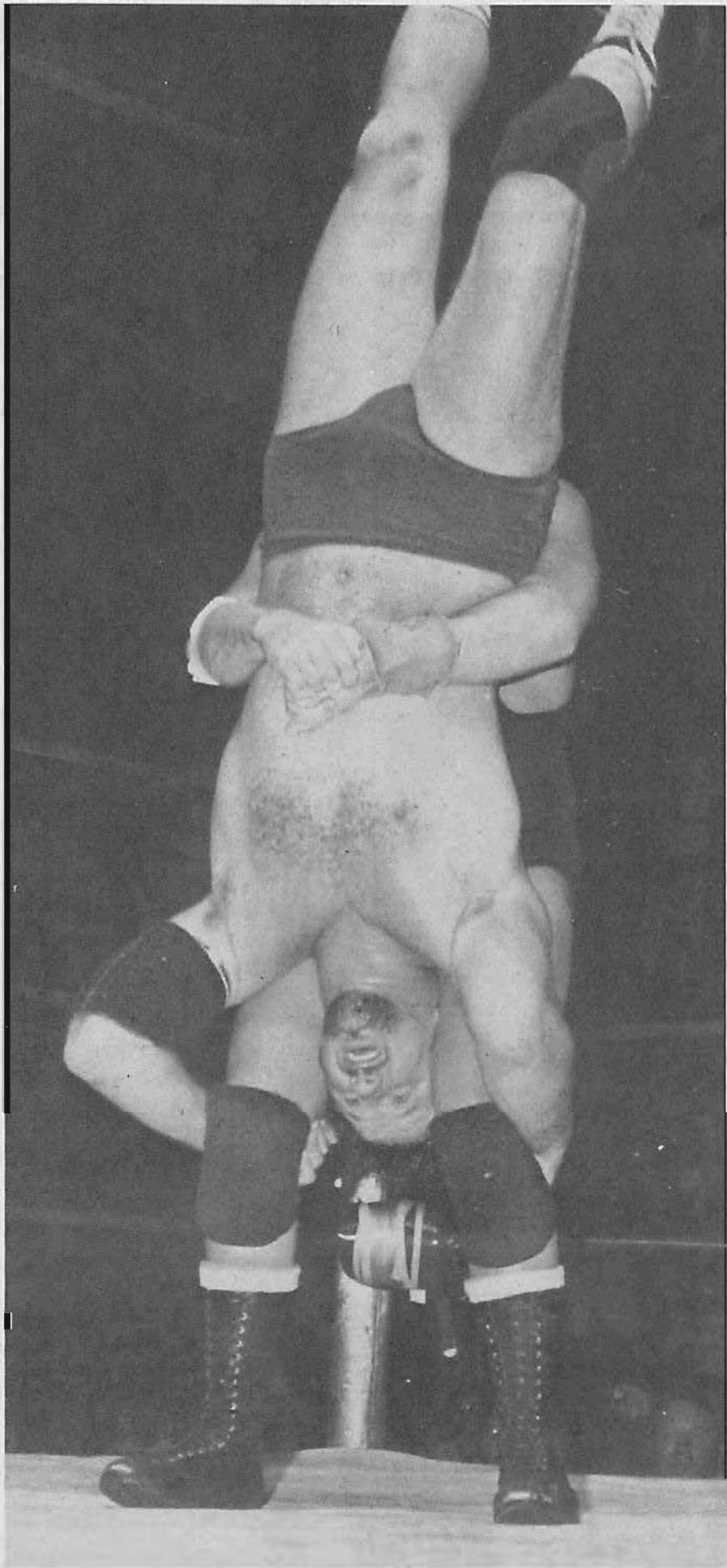
"Funk and Race. Race and Funk. It doesn't matter which order. But I'm going to make them both very sorry for what they did to Dusty Rhodes."

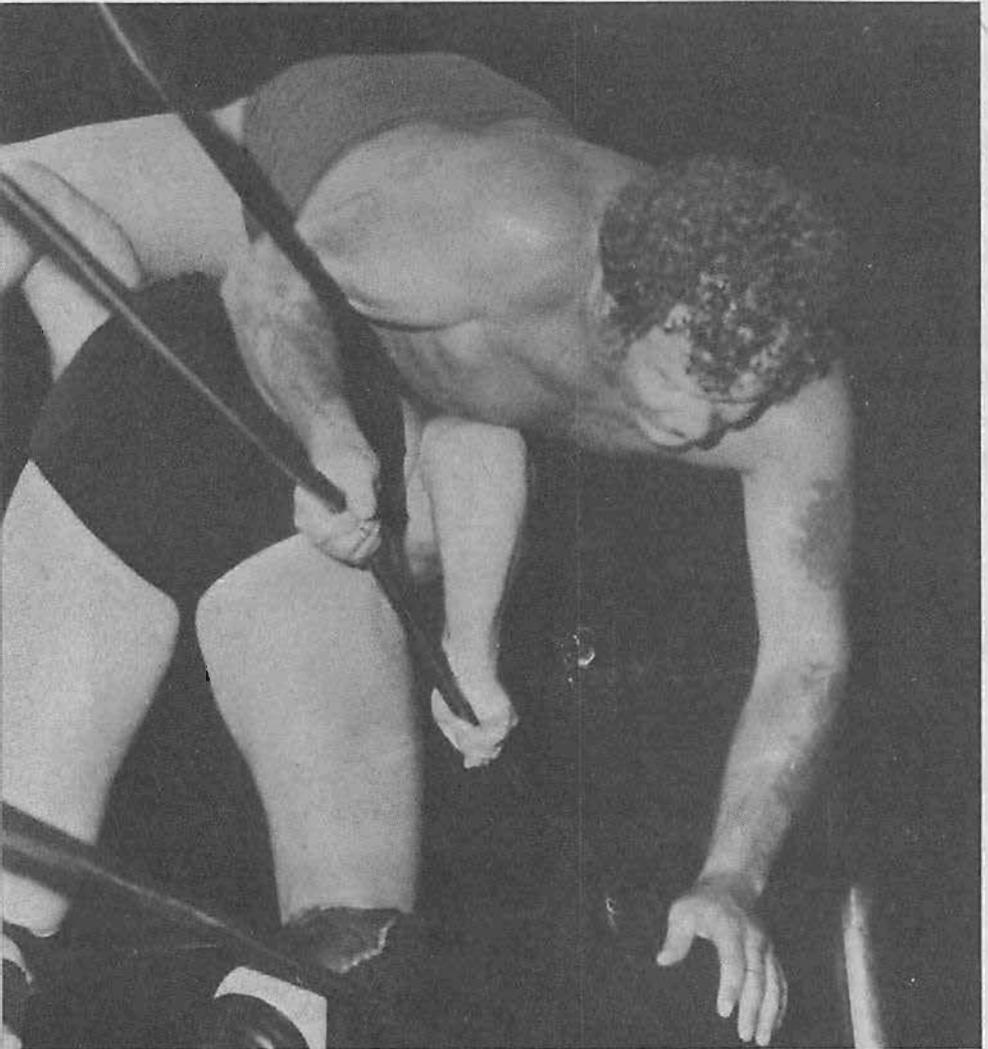
Keirn has an attachment to Rhodes not commonly found between two wrestlers. It dates back to Keirn's rookie year in pro wrestling. At that time Rhodes was going through a major transition. For years, he was a hated rulebreaker. But at that point he was trying ever so hard to get people to like him. It was not easy for him. As much as Dusty is loved now, he was hated for those years.

Keirn saw what Rhodes was trying to do and it had a great effect on him. "I don't think too many



DUSTY RHODES 'EVE KEIRN?





Keirn has made it his mission to destroy the careers of the two men responsible for Rhodes' humiliation. Opposite left: Keirn piledrives Terry Funk's head into the canvas. Left: Steve flips Race over the top rope. Below left: Funk is asked if he wants to give in to the pressure of Keirn's hammerlock.

people are aware just how difficult it is to change people's opinions of you," Keirn said. "Oh, it's one thing to be liked and then be hated. But once you're hated . . .

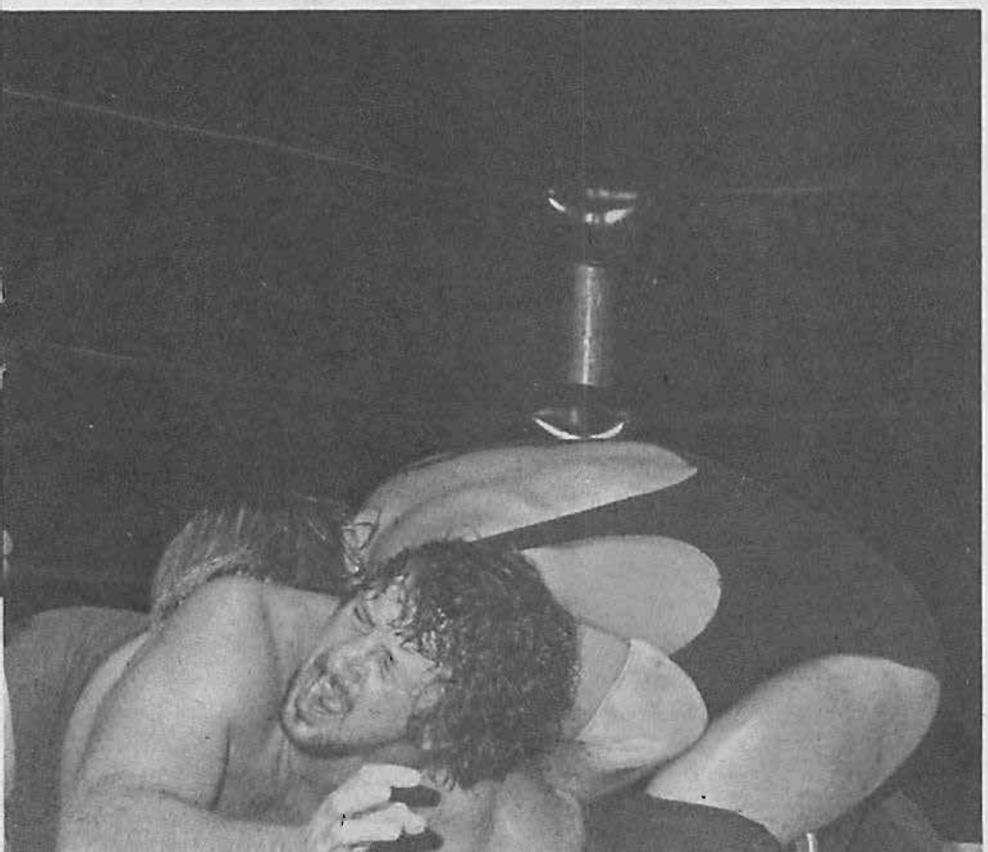
"This isn't easy for me to explain," Keirn continued. "But I was going through a rather painful experience at the time. Breaking into wrestling is not like starting a new job on an assembly line. It is extremely demanding emotionally. Now seeing Dusty Rhodes, a veteran of the sport, also going through an emotional experience, put me at ease a little.

"I think we both recognized this in each other. And we related to each other. We spoke about it a lot. I think I helped him a great deal, and I know he helped me."

After the Orlando incident, Keirn went to every promoter in Florida asking, pleading for a match against Race and Funk. Several promoters complied with his wishes. Most later regretted that they did.

Keirn was not himself in those matches. He neglected his scientific training and attacked like a wildman. Twice in the series of bouts, he was disqualified against Funk and once against Race.

There is a man who is very concerned about Keirn's obsession to avenge Dusty Rhodes. And he is Dusty Rhodes.



"I don't like what I'm seein'," Dusty said. "Steve has flipped out. Don't get me wrong, it's nice to see he's concerned. But I don't like what he's doin'. He's actually hurtin' himself. His whole personality seems to have changed. I hope now that I'm wrestling again, he'll stop. Because if he doesn't stop soon, he might be changed for good."

Or for bad. □

He's a modest man, one who would never grab credit for something he didn't deserve. Andre the Giant felt compelled, however, to tell the story of how he saved Bob Backlund's title. Not for his own sake, but for Backlund's—and the WWF

"HOW I SAVED BACKLUND'S TITLE"

By Andre the Giant

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



Bob Backlund attempts to drop Swede Hanson with a flying bodypress, but the wily veteran alertly caught the WWF champion in a bearhug.

IN MY OPINION, Bob Backlund is a very great champion. If he keeps his wits about him, Backlund could be champion for a long time. Like any other youngster, Backlund must watch out for his mental mistakes more than his physical errors.

Backlund committed such a mental error recently. I knew it would happen. All great ones suffer lapses and don't train as hard as they should or, in Backlund's case, let up a little for an opponent. It's called being over-confident.

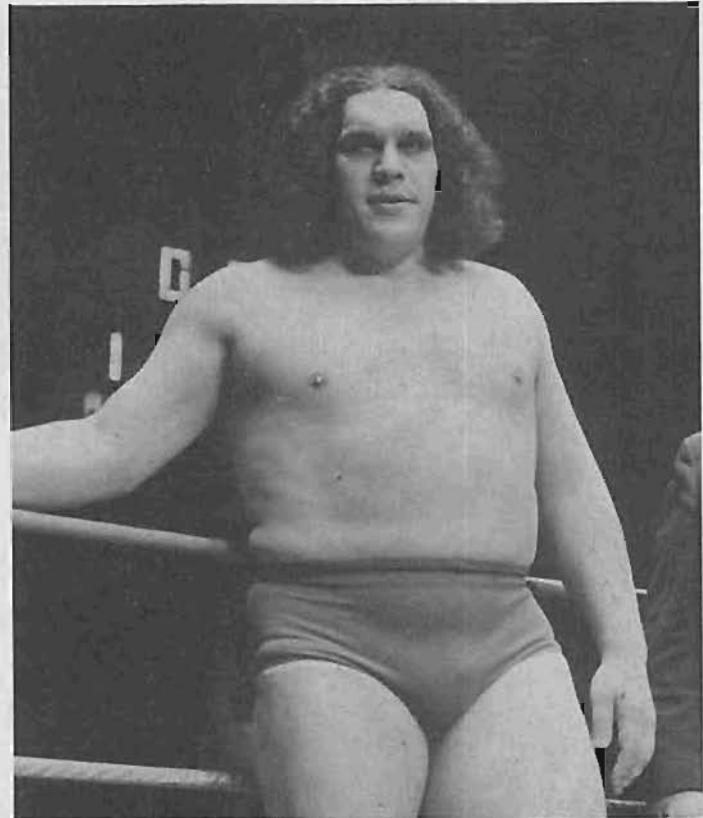
I knew it would be a tough guy that Backlund would do this against. That guy was Swede Hanson. It was up to me to save Backlund's title.

Everyone knows how modest I

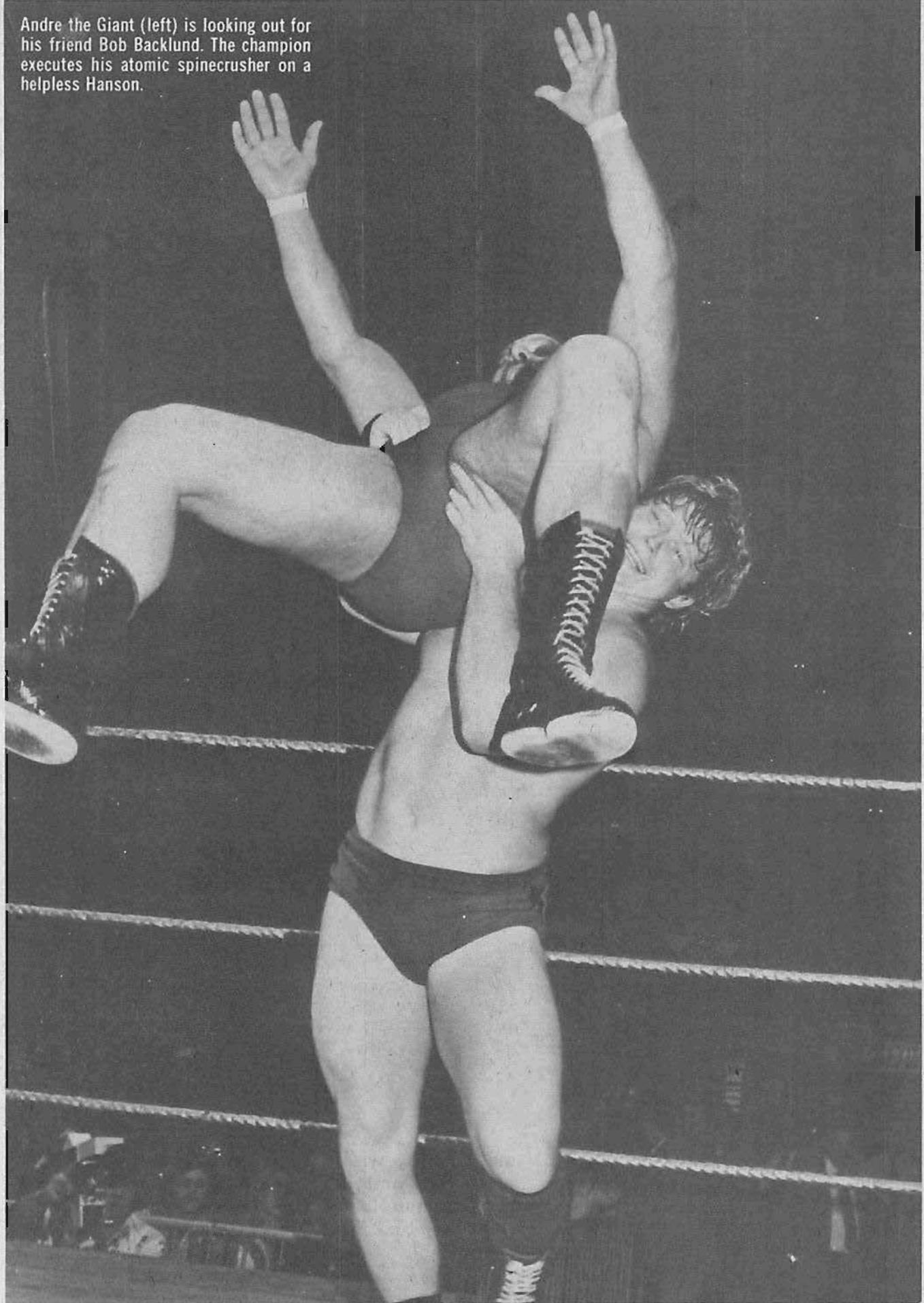
try to be. I hate to draw attention to myself. As a child, I was the shy one. But I was also considered the friendly one. I am loyal to my friends and I consider Backlund one of them. I could detect his trouble right away.

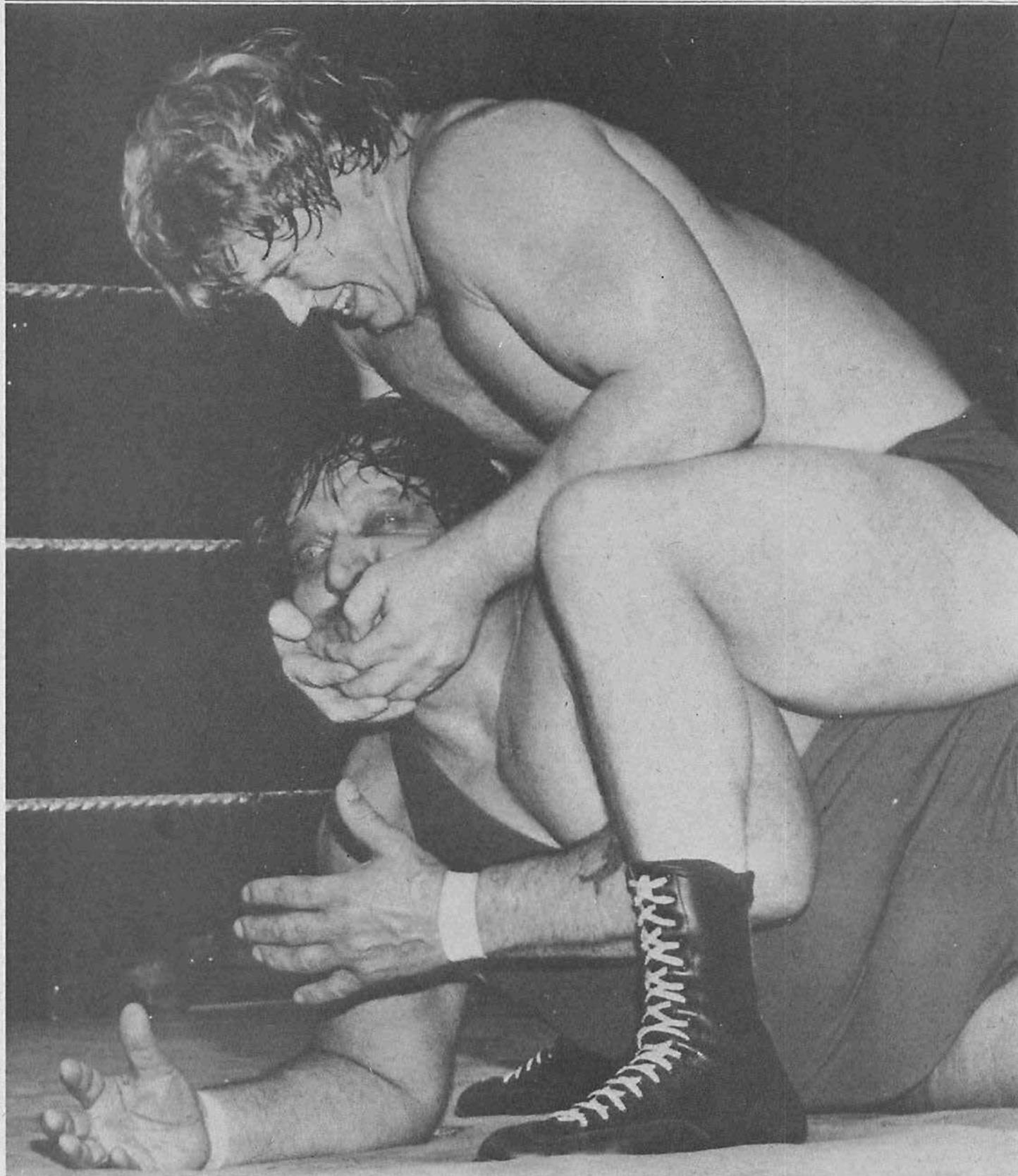
We were in the gym and all Backlund would talk about was Pat Patterson this and Pat Patterson that. I think Backlund is becoming obsessed with Patterson. Not that I blame him. Those wars have been some of the most brutal I ever saw. Backlund's life was on the line several times. I know it left scars on him that nothing can help. But I would not let Backlund down. I knew he wasn't ready for a guy like Hanson.

My mind would not let me



Andre the Giant (left) is looking out for his friend Bob Backlund. The champion executes his atomic spinecrusher on a helpless Hanson.





rest. I had many sleepless nights, tossing and turning in turmoil. What could I do? How could I help my friend?

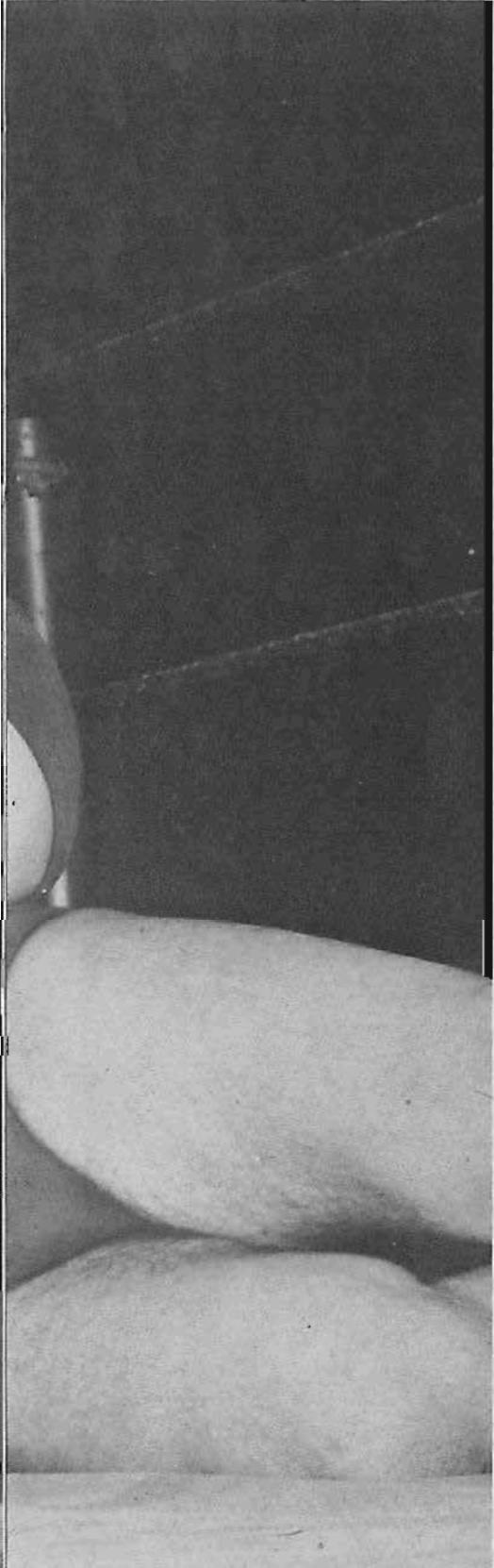
There was one path to follow. It would risk some injury to me. But I knew Bob would do the

same for me. I had to wrestle Hanson before Backlund did. This way, I would soften Hanson up, batter him a bit and make him less formidable against Backlund.

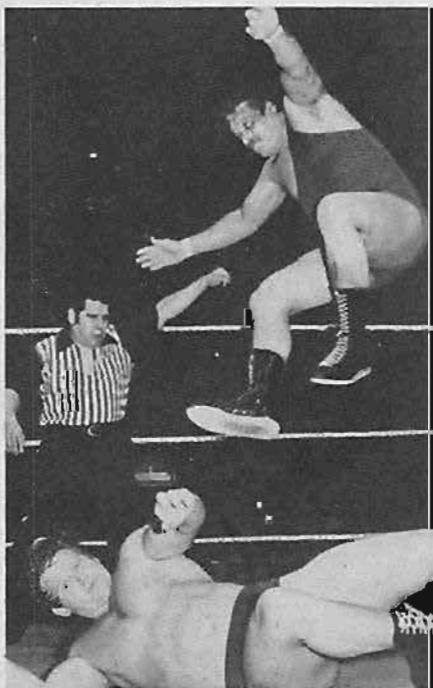
I couldn't tell Bob this. If he

knew what and why I was doing, he'd hit the ceiling. Backlund is a proud man. Maybe too proud, a little stubborn. Well, so am I. Nothing to be ashamed of.

I decided not to tell Backlund what I was doing. That was



Until now, no one, not even Bob Backlund—knew that Andre the Giant played a major role in his title defense against Swede Hanson. Left: Hanson's eyes show the pain of Backlund's necklock. Above: Bob Backlund drops Swede to the mat. Below: Hanson leaps off the turnbuckle, but the champ rolls away in time.



Fortunately, my dog Jacques was the excuse I needed. Bob loves Jacques and Jacques loves Bob. Someone once said one should never use an illness as a lie because you could inadvertently wish a disease on

that person. But for once this had to be done.

I called Bob and told him he had to bring Jacques to the vet. Poor Bob, he sounded so unhappy. I reassured him it was nothing serious. I told him Jacques couldn't seem to hold food lately. Bob understood.

That's how I got Bob Backlund to go to the veterinarian that evening and not see what I was doing. I don't want people to get the impression I'm some kind of noble saint or something.

Let me tell you that Bob Backlund could whip Swede Hanson any day of the week. And he did, just after I finished with Swede. But that Hanson is a tough cookie and he needed a little softening here and there. He needed a few whacks in the gut and several belts in the head so he'd learn a valuable lesson about life.

I don't like to put bouquets on my head but I have to say I think I might have saved Bob Backlund's title. He was not prepared for a full assault by Hanson. It might have been disastrous.

Ah, isn't that what friends are for? I have a great regard for friendships. Unfortunately, in wrestling, friendships are hard to come by. Too much jealousy around. I have no patience for petty little things. I've seen incredibly bloody feuds start over a simple misunderstanding. I've seen great tag teams ruined and friendships destroyed over a trivial little item. That's why I don't wrestle regularly with any partner. If I team with someone, I do so out of friendship and respect for that person's skills. If you stay too long, jealousy and little stuff will start and ruin everything.

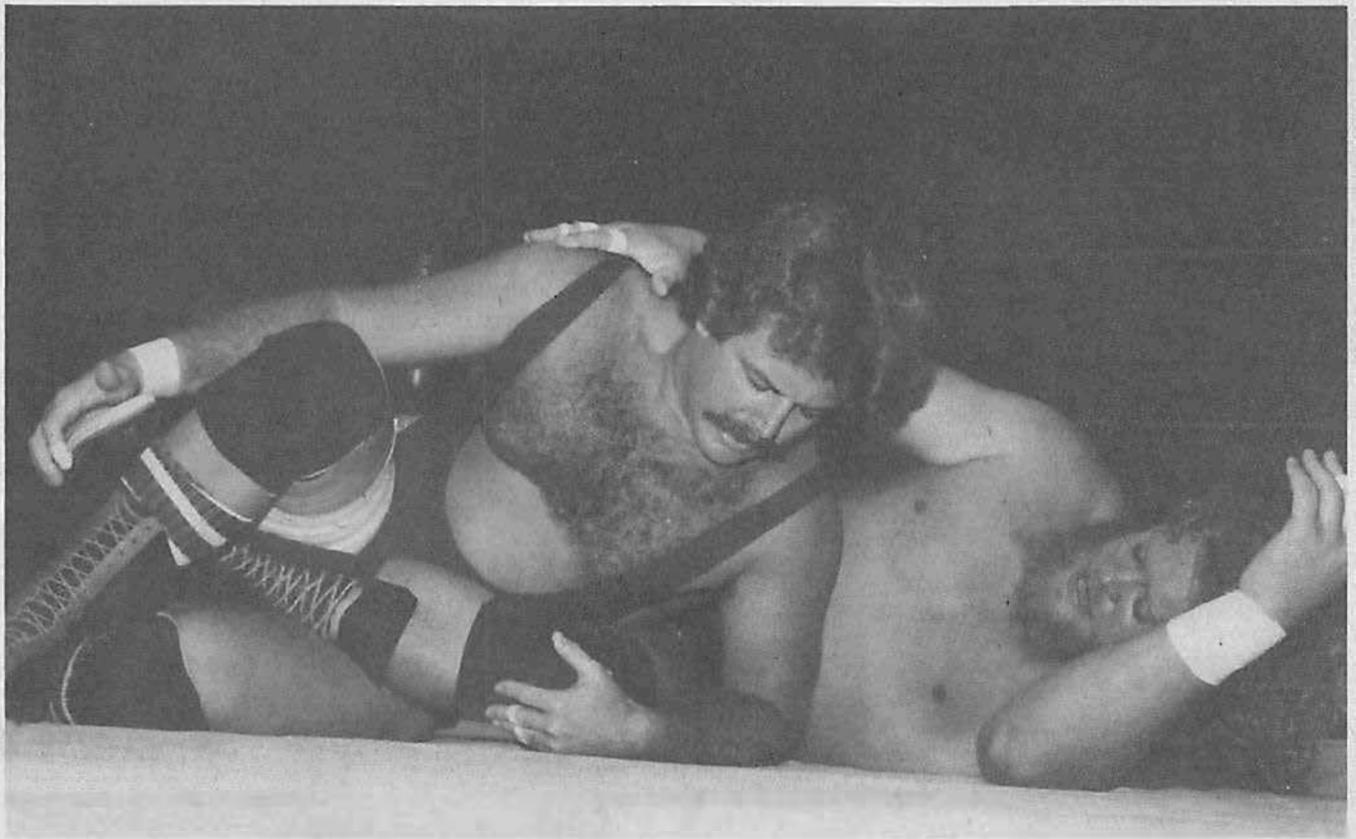
I've always considered Bob my good friend. That's why I did what I did. I'm proud to call Bob Backlund my friend. □

difficult. We have an unspoken agreement to see each of our matches and report back, usually over a fine dinner. I had to come up with some excuse to keep Backlund from the arena so he wouldn't see who I was wrestling.

Mike Graham's Painful Decision

**CHOOSE ONE:
YOUR FANS...
OR THE
NWA
TITLE**

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



Mike Graham has full concentration on an ankle lock, but he has recently been faulted for playing to the fans at the expense of his aggressiveness. Experts, including his father, Eddie, feel that that habit could hinder his career.

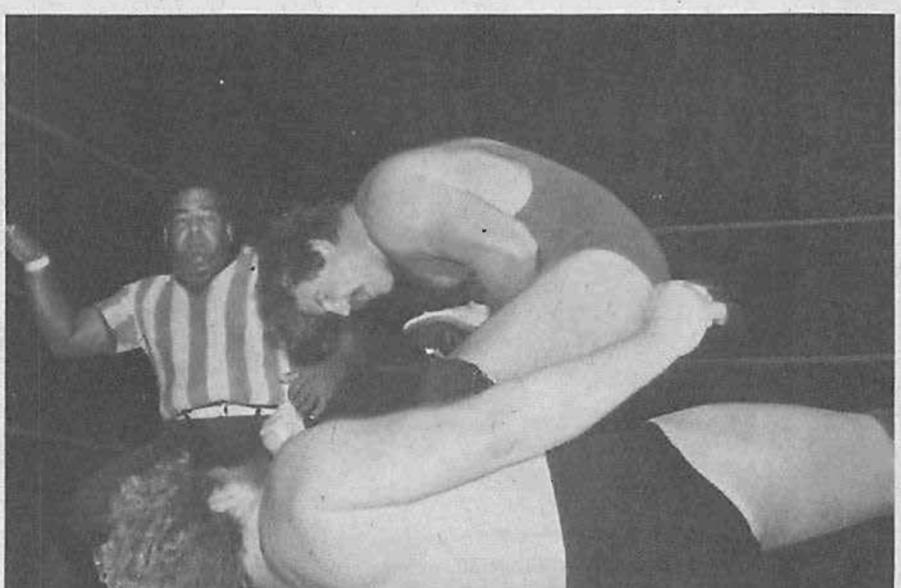
**The time has come for Mike Graham to establish his priorities.
What is more important to him, loyalty to his fans or the pursuit
of the NWA title? The decision must be made soon**

HIS HAND WAS raised in victory as it has been so many times before. *The winner... Mike Graham.* The crowd let off a tremendous roar. Graham pranced around the ring with both arms in the air as the fans' cheers grew even louder.

Florida wrestling fans are very close to Mike Graham. Mike Graham is very close to the fans. Perhaps too close.

Graham signed a few autographs and shook some hands on his way back to the dressing room. His broad smile, seemingly glued to his face, quickly vanished as he walked through the dressing room door. There stood Eddie.

(Continued on page 56)



For the early part of their match, Graham worked exclusively on Thor the Viking's left arm. He let up, however, when Thor begged for mercy.

Special Editorial

LIKE ANY OTHER field where humans tread, wrestling is afflicted with injustices. In their own way, they outrage participants as much as spiraling inflation or gas lines. Culprits are sought and

punishment demanded. Sometimes we can do something about it. Other times, we are powerless, helpless to effect any positive changes.

We can demand changes. We can demand that injustices be rectified and the innocent be made whole. Thus, this month we ask the World Wrestling

TED DiBIASE MUST BE NORTH GIVE AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP



Ted DiBiase locks Hussein Arab in an abdominal stretch. We demand DiBiase be given back his North American title.



Federation to redress a horrible imbalance.

Ted DiBiase must be given the North American title. Now!

Let us recollect the nightmarish train of events which led to DiBiase's loss of the title. The handsome young scientific wrestler headed east with bouquets of accomplishment and the beautific scent of promise. A major title loomed on the horizon. DiBiase disappointed no one.

N THE RICAN TITLE

Quickly, he captured the North American title, a monumental achievement for one so young. Rumors circulated that he would soon challenge Bob Backlund for the WWF title. Never has one federation held two such talented young grapplers.

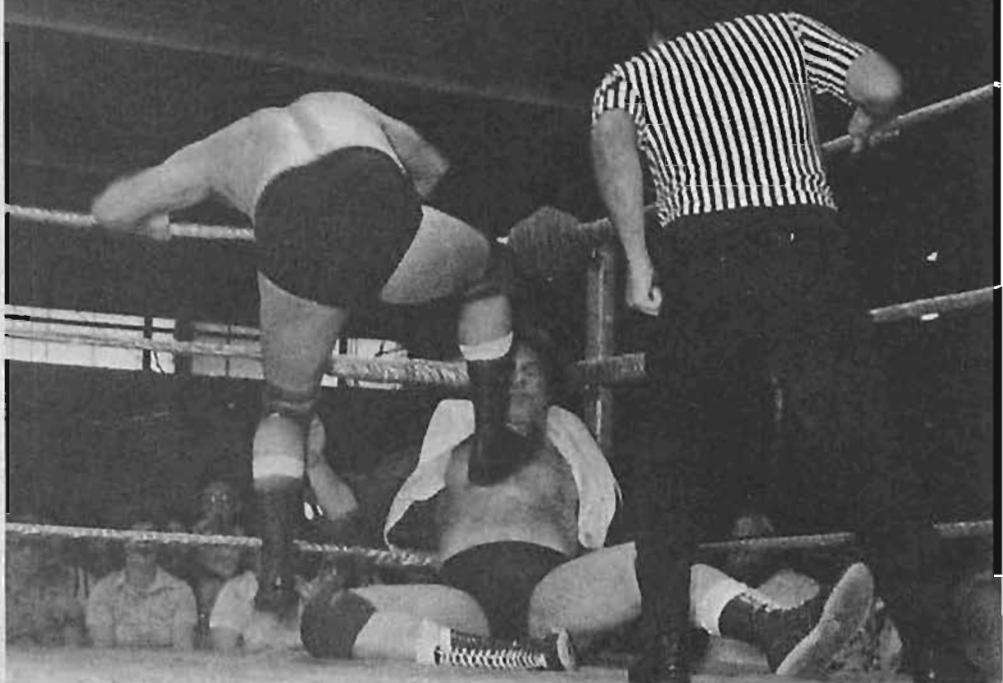
Then Pat Patterson struck. He struck swiftly and repeatedly. It was a bloody, treacherous assault. When all was over, Patterson was the North American champion. He used every devious trick one creature can use on a human being. But it was the infamous brass knuckles which led to DiBiase's demise.

Yes, those sordid, loathsome brass knuckles. That is no way for a champion to act. Yet that is how Patterson claimed victory.

Later, Patterson used those very same brass knuckles on other opponents, notably, Bob Backlund. But that's another story, another tale of woe.

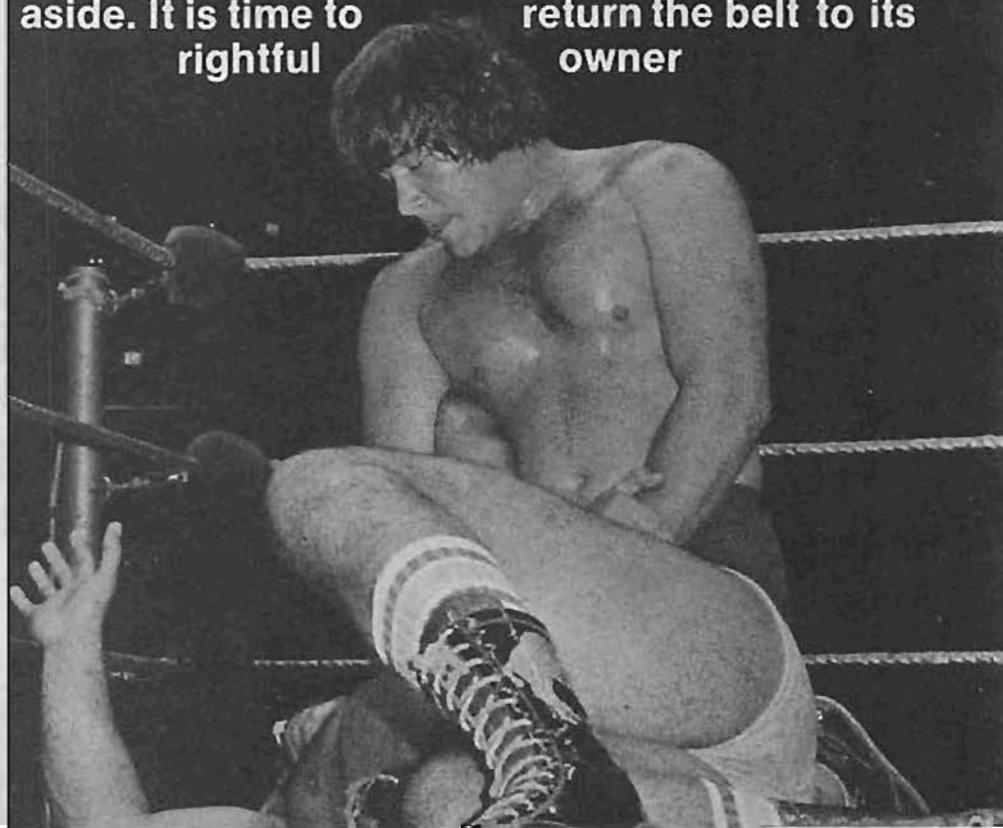
Recently, Patterson further soiled the title by turning his back on the championship and

(Continued on page 62)



Pat Patterson attacks DiBiase before the bell (above) and went on to win the title with the aid of brass knuckles. Ted holds Hussein in an armbar (below).

Ted DiBiase cherished his North American belt. He worked hard to preserve the honor and glory of the title. But then it was taken away from him by a madman with brass knuckles, who degraded the belt and cast it aside. It is time to return the belt to its owner



By Masked Superstar

I HOPE SOME of you moronic creeps can understand this story. I know most fans can't read. Well, what do you expect from retard, anyway. I look around this idiotic wrestling writers' office and see the same morons I see in the arena. No wonder I'm so bent out of shape. I can't stand surrounding myself with morons.

Well, there's a reason I asked these fools at this magazine to let me write this article. I gotta get something off my chest before it's

too late. People ask me a lot of questions about myself. Usually I tell them to take a powder or jump off a cliff. But I get tired of moron writers printing lies about me and the moron fans who don't know any better swallowing them like they were turkey on Thanksgiving.

People ask me who I am. I tell 'em I'm Masked Superstar. They ask me what I do in my spare time, where I eat or where I live. It ain't none of their damn business. Most times I pick the punk up by the throat and choke off a little air.

That shuts 'em up. But one question which always bugged me is about to be answered. Lots of morons have asked it before and it's high time I gave them an honest, forthright answer befitting my status as greatest wrestler who ever lived.

I want to warn you fools that it might be tough to take. After all, I'm punching holes in one of your favorites, one of your fair-haired boys. I'm talkin' about Wahoo McDaniel. As sorry as I am to say this, he's a brother of mine. A sick

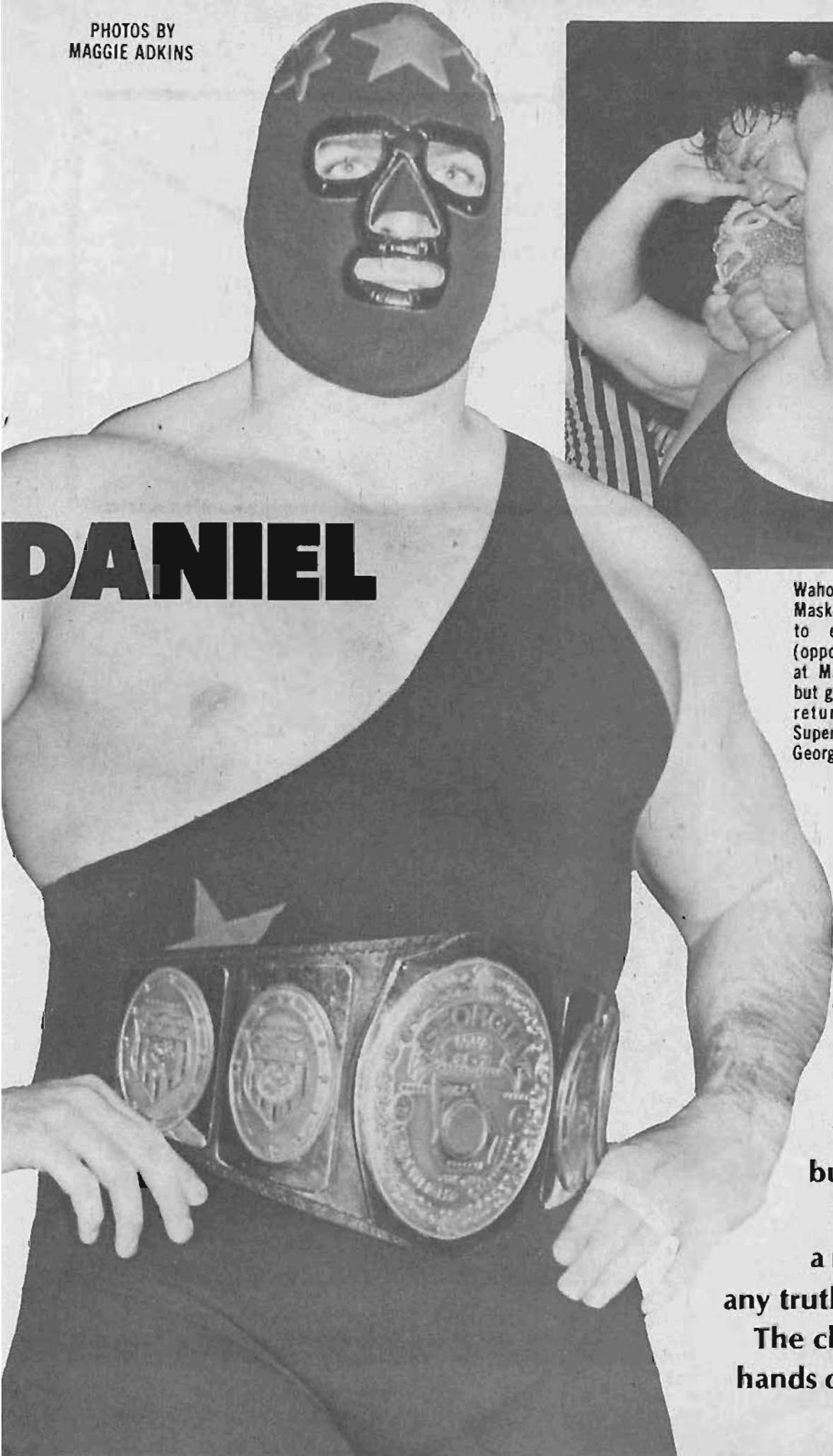
(Continued on page 64)

MASKED SUPERSTAR: "WHY WAHOO Mc PAYS ME TO WEAR A MASK"



PHOTOS BY
MAGGIE ADKINS

DANIEL



Wahoo McDaniel grabs at Masked Superstar's face trying to escape his chokehold (opposite left). Wahoo yanks at Masked Superstar's mask but gets a finger in the eye in return (above). Masked Superstar poses with his Georgia state belt (left).

In a startling declaration, not only does Masked Superstar reveal his true heritage, but he also tells why he wears a mask. Is there any truth to his story? The choice is in the hands of our readers

YOUR LETTERS

Send Letters To:
YOUR LETTERS
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FLAIR IS TRULY A HERO

I'd like to point out that in your article, "How Paul Jones Turned Ric Flair Into A Hero" (October/1979), you were right when you stated that Paul Jones will always be hated. But I believe you have to change your statement about Ric Flair.

He will not always be hated. As a matter of fact, he has already earned the love and support of many legions of fans. This one night was when Flair showed the world what he is really made of. Yes Ric Flair is truly a hero. And it came from within himself.

If Rick Steamboat trusts Flair, so do I. If Blackjack Mulligan trusts him, so do I.

CATHY METCALF
Landrum, S.C.

BRUNO IS A BUM

Although I have never had the displeasure of seeing Bruno Sammartino in action, I think he is a bum. All the pictures one sees of him in action, Sammartino is using his fists or kicking. I never see him use a



Ric Flair hits Rufus R. Jones with a flying elbow drop during his days as a despised villain. Now Ric is a fan-favorite and reader Cathy Metcalf feels he can be trusted. "If Rick Steamboat trusts Flair," she writes, "so do I. If Blackjack Mulligan trusts him, so do I."

legal hold. If he were to come to the AWA, he would get booed out of here like the Valiant Brothers.

KEN TEAKES
Winnipeg, Canada

A BRUNO FIGHT SONG

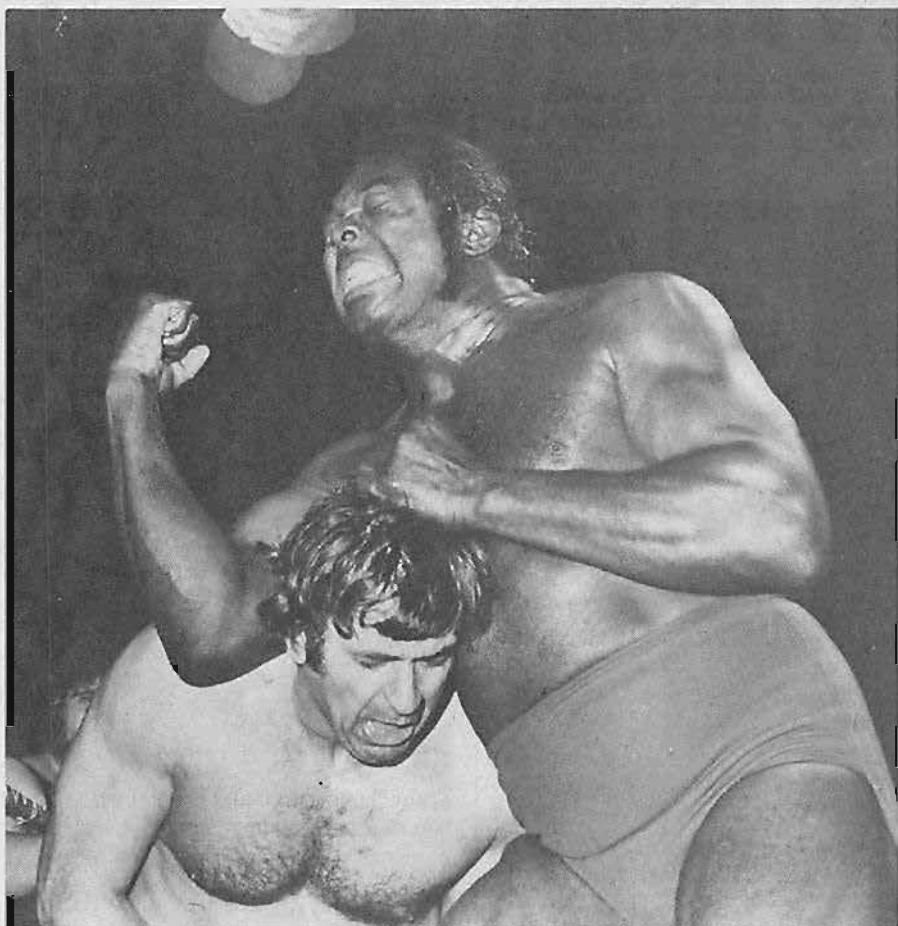
Would you please see that Bruno Sammartino hears the Sammartino fight song? It's sung to the same music as the Pittsburgh Steelers fight song.



Some of Bruno Sammartino's fans have composed a fight song honoring their hero. It is sung to the melody of the well-known Pittsburgh Steelers' fight song.

*Here's to the town with the great champion!
He's Bruno Sammartino
Bruno has whipped them all time and again
Here's to Bruno Sammartino!
Bruno will keep on fighting admirably
As long as there are rulebreakers
Bruno's the true champion
Come on cheer for the Living Legend.*

BRUNO'S FANS
Pittsburgh, Pa.



Bobo Brazil slams his powerful right elbow into Baron Scicluna's neck. Bobo has long been one of the most popular men in all of wrestling. Reader Michael Monteiro says that the sport would improve greatly if other wrestlers took note of his style.

BOBO IS ONE OF A KIND

I'm writing this letter to bring the following fact to your attention. Bobo Brazil has been a favorite of mine, as well as many others, over the years. Sure there have been other great mat stars, like Bruno Sammartino and Andre the Giant, but Bobo Brazil is one of a kind.

If some of these wrestlers would take a lesson from Bobo, wrestling would improve a heckuva lot.

MICHAEL MONTEIRO
New Bedford, Mass.

MAKES ME SICK

I had to write about what Pat Patterson did to Bob Backlund. It was disgraceful. The bum hit Bob with some brass knuckles. Those were the same brass knuckles Patterson used to beat

Ted DiBiase for the North American title. Patterson used this method because he knew he couldn't win any other way.

It makes me sick to think a wrestler would do that to a fellow grappler. He ought to be banned. Well, I just wanted to tell you that Pat Patterson isn't my favorite wrestler anymore.

STEVE KEMPF
Kennesaw, Ga.

B.J., THE BEAR—AND ANDRE!!

Andre the Giant had a part in the premier episode of *B.J. and the Bear*. Andre was great! All you had to do was look on the top of the TV screen and there he is, the Eighth Wonder of the World, Andre the Giant.

TONY TERRANOVA
Hartford, Conn. □

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YOU ASKED US

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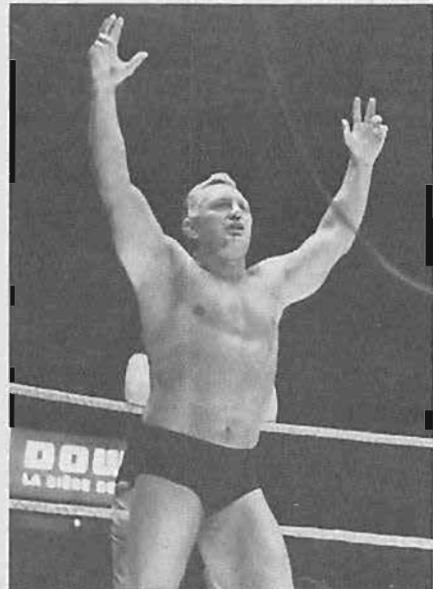
Bruno Sammartino and Larry Zbyszko have teamed on many occasions. Larry has often been called a "young Bruno." They will, according to Bruno, team again very shortly.

Q: I can't figure out why Bruno Sammartino and Larry Zbyszko never join forces as a tag team. I really think they would make a good tag team and probably win a major title in the immediate future—Vernon Shanabrook, Hanover, Pa.

A: "You know, Vernon, Larry and I have always had a special sort of relationship," Sammartino said. "Many consider him my protege' and we have wrestled as a team before. Doggone it, you can bet we'll do it again before we hang up the laced boots."

Q: Will Buddy Rogers ever wrestle again? Todd Kuhl, Bradenton, Fla.

A: Buddy Rogers is still inflicting physical and mental anguish on opponents, notably in the Mid-Atlantic area. In addition to his wrestling, Rogers has turned to managing. The veteran



Buddy "Nature Boy" Rogers still dons the wrestling tights on occasion, but he has done most of his damage lately as a manager.

"Nature Boy" claims Jimmy Snuka is among his recent converts to rulebreaking.

Q: Is my friend crazy or not? He says that Verne Gagne wrestled Bruno Sammartino

for the WWF title years ago. I know my friend has problems, but is he correct? If so, I'll never live it down because I wrote "Fool," on his bedroom window—Scott O'Neill, New York, N.Y.

A: No, Scott, Bruno Sammartino never wrestled Verne Gagne for the WWF title.

Q: In their first reign as WWF champions, from whom did the Valiant Brothers win the title and whom did they lose it to?—Linda Hitz, Hartford, Conn.



John Valiant (pictured) and his brother, Jim, originally won the WWF tag team title from Tony Garea and Dean Ho. Recently, Ivan Putski and Tito Santana captured the belts from the Valiants.

A: The Valiants won the title from Tony Garea and Dean Ho in a brutal match that shocked all of wrestling. However, it took the fabulous duo of Dominic DeNucci and Victor Rivera to wrest the belt from those fiendish Valiants. □

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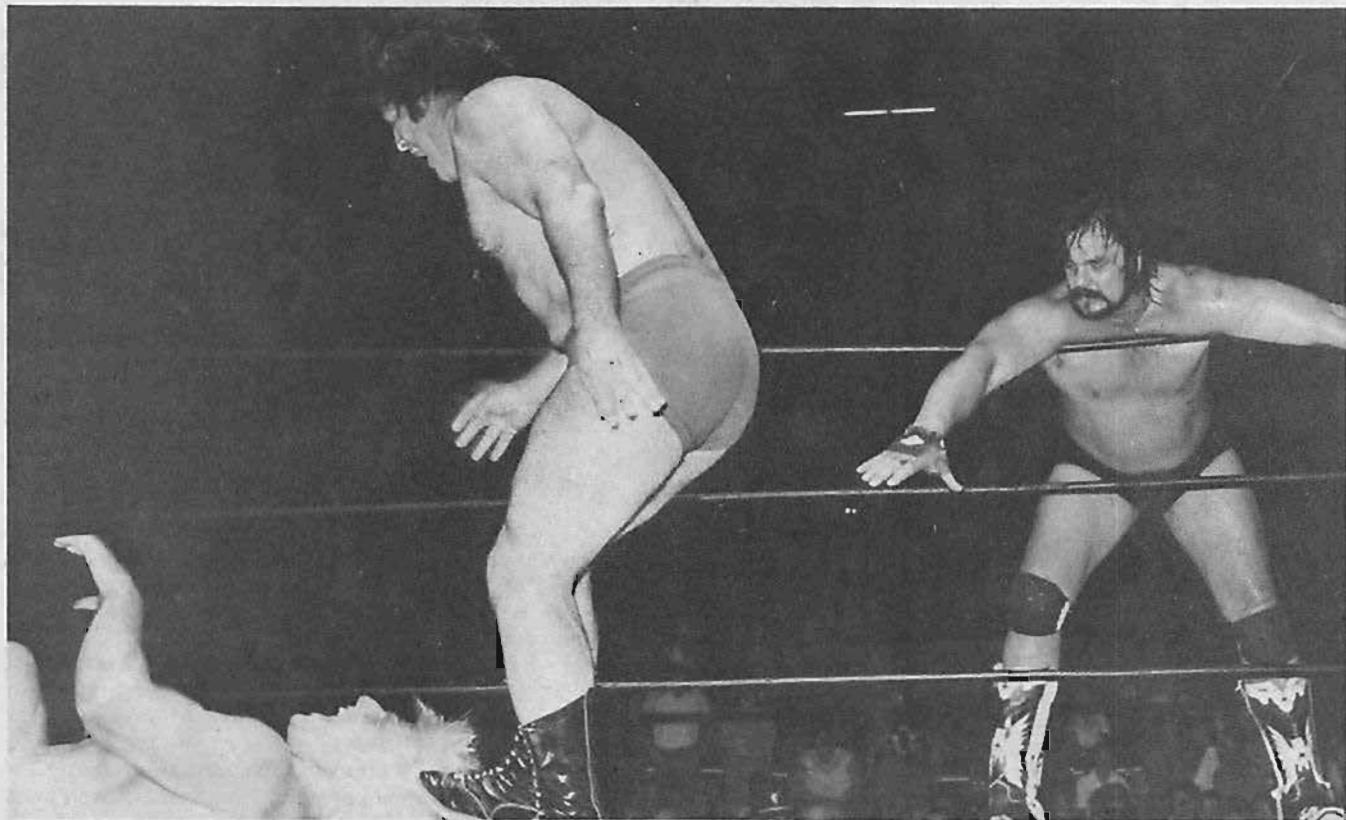
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RIC FLAIR

(Continued from Page 29)



Blackjack Mulligan reaches in vain to tag off to Ric Flair, who is being stomped by Paul Jones. Both Flair and Mulligan are reformed rulebreakers.

folder labeled, "Mid-Atlantic Wrestling—1979" onto the desk. "See these little notations I made when Flair started teaming with Steamboat?" Kugel shoved the folder across the desk, gesturing at a column of scribbles. "Right here, I noted that Flair and Steamboat were too volatile to team together. Now, if Flair had decided to calm down and grow responsive to fan wishes without pairing with Steamboat, he might have regained the road which would lead him to a great career as a scientific wrestler."

Kugel rose and lifted a picture of Buddy Rogers off a tack in the wall. For a moment, Kugel's lined face drifted backward, traveling through the misty land of memories and old arenas.

Shaking his graying head, Kugel returned to the present.

"Flair and Rogers would have my head on a pike for saying this, but there is a great similarity here," Kugel said, sipping a cup of coffee. "Beyond this 'Nature Boy' nickname business, they're both tough guys with a world of talent who decided to wrestle as bad guys.

"That's one of the reasons why I don't think Flair will stay as a fan favorite. He and Steamboat are too volatile, that's a start. And Flair himself doesn't have the temperament to form an effective tag team for any length of time," Kugel continued.

"If he would stay as an individual, he might be able to sort himself out and hold on to his new position as a fan favorite. But as soon as he teams with someone, the hatred begins and an explosion is

inevitable," Kugel said, pausing to light another cigar.

"Now that Greg Valentine is coming back here, ah, I think that'll be the final blow." Kugel paused and examined the smoke clinging about his head. He smiled at some inner joke and continued.

"I hear that Valentine has vowed to return Flair to the ways of rulebreaking. From what I can see, Greg Valentine is the only guy Flair has ever trusted," Kugel said. "If anyone can make Flair into a bad guy again it's Valentine."

"What a shame that'd be. Flair has the potential to become one of the all-time greats. Instead, he'll allow himself to be ruined by a man like Valentine," Kugel said. He rose and crushed the cigar in the ashtray. Deliberately, he slipped the folder back into the messy cabinet, leaving the drawer slightly open. □

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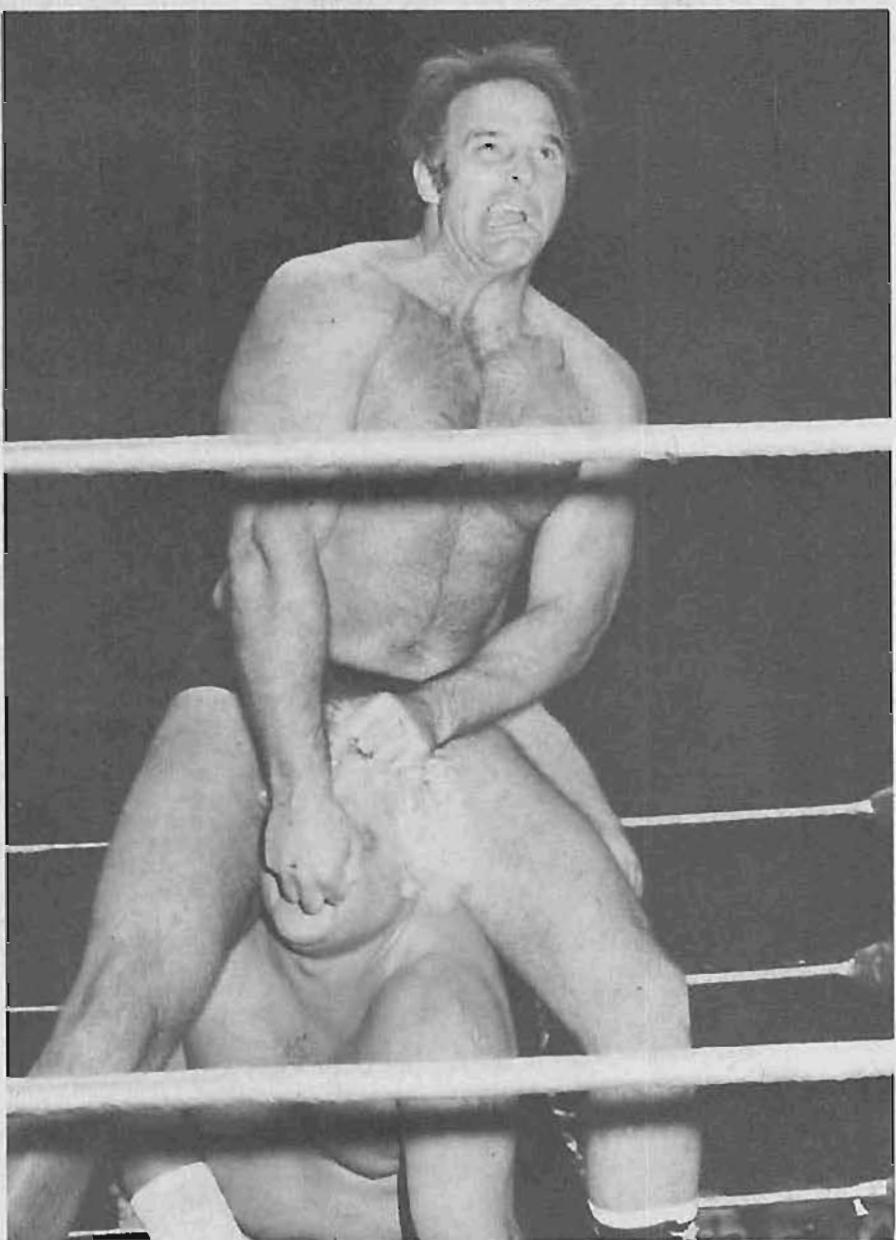
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DUSTY RHODES

(Continued from Page 25)



Maniac Mark Lewin rips at Dusty's nostrils. Since sustaining a broken arm and losing the NWA title, Rhodes has been slumping.

high. Though Rhodes has been known to tough it out, he's clean. No cheating from Rhodes. So for the belt to be lost on a crummy blow by Funk dug deeply."

Rhodes' increasing bitterness was another aspect the panel focused upon.

"In all my years in wrestling, I've never seen anyone that bitter," said our third expert, a tall, rangy middle-aged gentleman. "Rhodes is almost blinded by his bitterness. I don't think he can think about

anything but Terry Funk and what happened that evening.

"All Rhodes' energies are directed to that one objective," he continued. "If you are so obsessed, you can't plan a strategy or react properly. Animal instincts are not enough in the NWA."

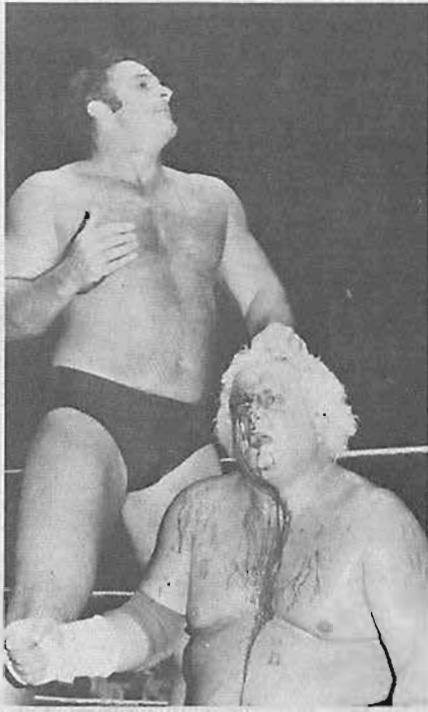
A consensus quickly developed. Apparently, Rhodes was not afflicted with the kind of slump other champions have endured. His difficulties were unique to his situation.

"Any wrestler has a letdown after a title loss," said the fourth member, an elderly woman. "It's natural. With the NWA title, it just seems to last a little longer, that's all. I don't think anyone in this room could offer a logical explanation for it. It's just one of those bizarre things."

"Rhodes isn't suffering a letdown per se. He's in emotional turmoil."

All these insights and opinions skirted the central topic. Has Dusty Rhodes lost it? Will he disappear, another sacrifice to oblivion?

"Definitely not," said the elderly



Blood oozes into Rhodes' closed right eye as Lewin continues his assault.

woman, momentarily putting down her knitting. "Rhodes won it once and he'll do it again."

"All Rhodes needs is to get his energies back on the right path," said the middle-aged man. "The talent and intensity is still there."

"Once Rhodes convincingly beats Funk, he'll be okay and ready to mount another challenge to Race," said the heavy-set man.

"Champions don't lose it," said the grey-haired man. "Otherwise, they're not champions." □

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from Page 18)



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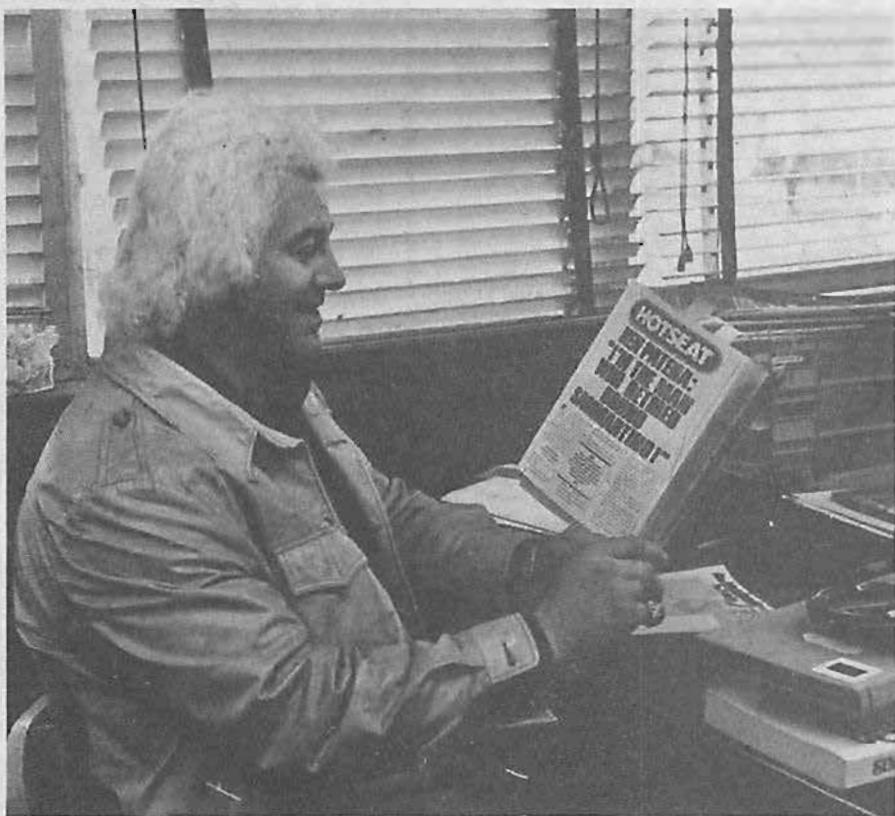


several of the areas best stars . . . Pampero Firpo has captured the Puerto Rican championship . . . Bruiser and Crusher are teaming again in the Midwest . . . Dino Bravo is negotiating with AWA promoters for a stay in their area.

Big Dewey Robertson has taken the Canadian championship in a one-night tournament held in Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens. Robertson is one of the few men in the sport who holds a non-title victory over AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel. Bockwinkel calls Robertson "One of the finest competitors in the world." That's

Dick Murdoch, current Missouri State king, is involved in a red-hot feud with former friend and fellow Texan, Dory Funk Jr. . . . Greg Valentine has protested his recent loss to Bruno Sammartino in Madison Square Garden. "The referee was paid plenty by the macaroni brain Sammartino to make sure I didn't get a clear victory over him," Valentine says. Mil Mascaras is contemplating a return to California, site of his greatest victories.

Houston promoter Paul Boesch is closer than ever to signing a "Superbowl" match between



some compliment coming from a man like Bockwinkel.

Ken Patera has predicted the conclusion to Bob Backlund's WWF title reign. "Howdy Doody Backlund has got about 20 more days on earth as champion of the World Wrestling Federation," Patera says. He didn't have to predict who would win the title.

Powerful Ken Patera has predicted Bob Backlund's demise to coincide with his arrival in the WWF.

NWA champion Harley Race and AWA champion Nick Bockwinkel. "A few more things must be ironed out first and then I think Houston will get the match," Boesch says . . . Dean Ho is still active in Tennessee . . . Larry Zbyszko has

returned to the WWF . . . S.D. Jones is teaming on a semi-regular basis with Pedro Morales in the Carolinas . . . Jos Leduc is back in Florida.

A television production firm has begun production on "The Fred Blassie Story." The film will chronicle Blassie's successful and lengthy days as a pro wrestler and manager . . . Rick Steamboat and Ric Flair are still getting along fine and tag teaming regularly . . . Davy O'Hannon is back in action after a leg injury forced him to the sidelines for quite some time . . . David Von Erich is headed to Madison Square Garden. O'Hannon will be the young Von Erich's opponent.

Florida heavyweight champion Terry Funk has made up his "Most Wanted List." It is (in order), Dusty Rhodes, Jack Brisco, Jerry Brisco, Mike Graham, Steve Keirn, Sweet Brown Sugar, and Manny Fernandez. "I'll wipe 'em out two at a time," Funk boasts.

Buddy Rogers has made it official. He not only manages U.S. champion Jimmy Snuka, but has also added John Studd and Ken Patera to his Mid-Atlantic stable of wrestlers. He is negotiating with Greg Valentine to manage him for area bouts also.

Superstar Graham has turned up in Memphis, Tennessee, and declares he is still the greatest wrestler of all time. "Where I have been is not the concern of anyone," Graham says. "What is important is the future. I will reign as a great champion once again. The Superstar is back to rule wrestling!"

LATE BULLETIN: As this issue went to press we were informed that Jay Youngblood and Rick Steamboat have won the NWA tag team championship from Paul Jones and Baron Von Raschke. Jones and Von Raschke will be dropped from their number two spot in our ratings as of our next issue.

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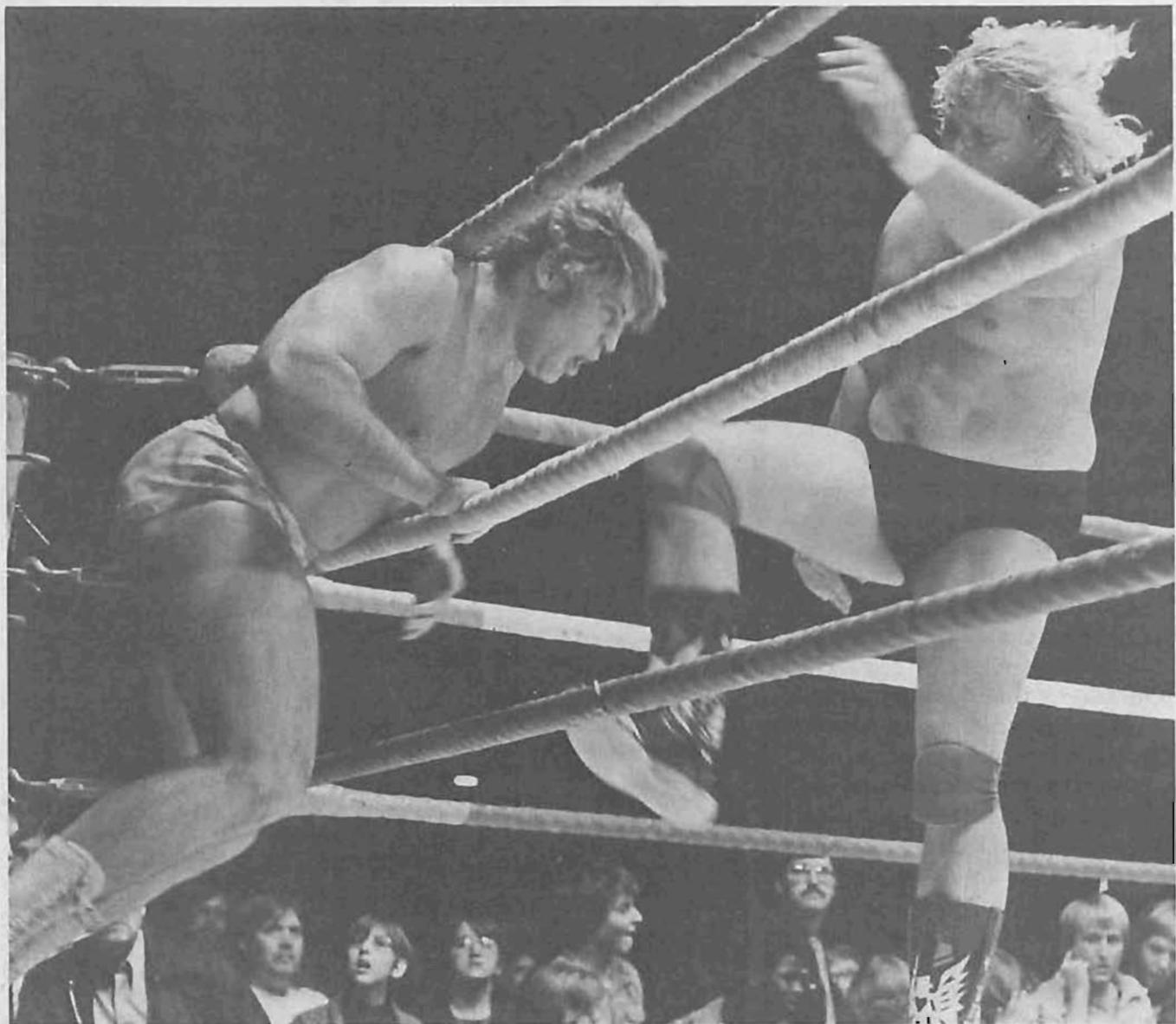
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Q & A

(Continued from Page 21)



Backlund?

A: I've got two advantages right from the start, well, more than that. I'll start with experience. I know ways to wrestle that Backlund wouldn't learn in a million years.

Q: Some would call that dirty knowledge.

A: I don't care what some would call it. Can I go on? Thanks. As I was saying, I'm more experienced than Backlund. Call it wily. I've got instincts which can't be learned. I was that way in my first match. Also, I've

Duncum refuses to let Jim Brunzell re-enter the ring. Bobby is now in the WWF with his sights on one man—champion Bob Backlund. "I know ways to wrestle that Backlund wouldn't learn in a million years," he said. "Call it wily. I've got instincts that can't be learned."

got the physical advantage over Backlund. I'm stronger and larger. Probably quicker. What's that leave Howdy Doody? Oh, he probably bleeds better than me. I don't have much experience in that.

Q: Assuming you would defeat Backlund for the WWF title, what would the reign of Duncum as champion be like?

A: Ah, I would bring wrestling back to the level it once was. Courage would be rewarded. Talent would be acknowledged. All those whining half-wits would be thrown out. Wrestling would be a proud sport again without cretins like Backlund and Sammartino.

Q: Thanks for stopping by, Bobby.

A: My pleasure. □

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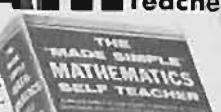
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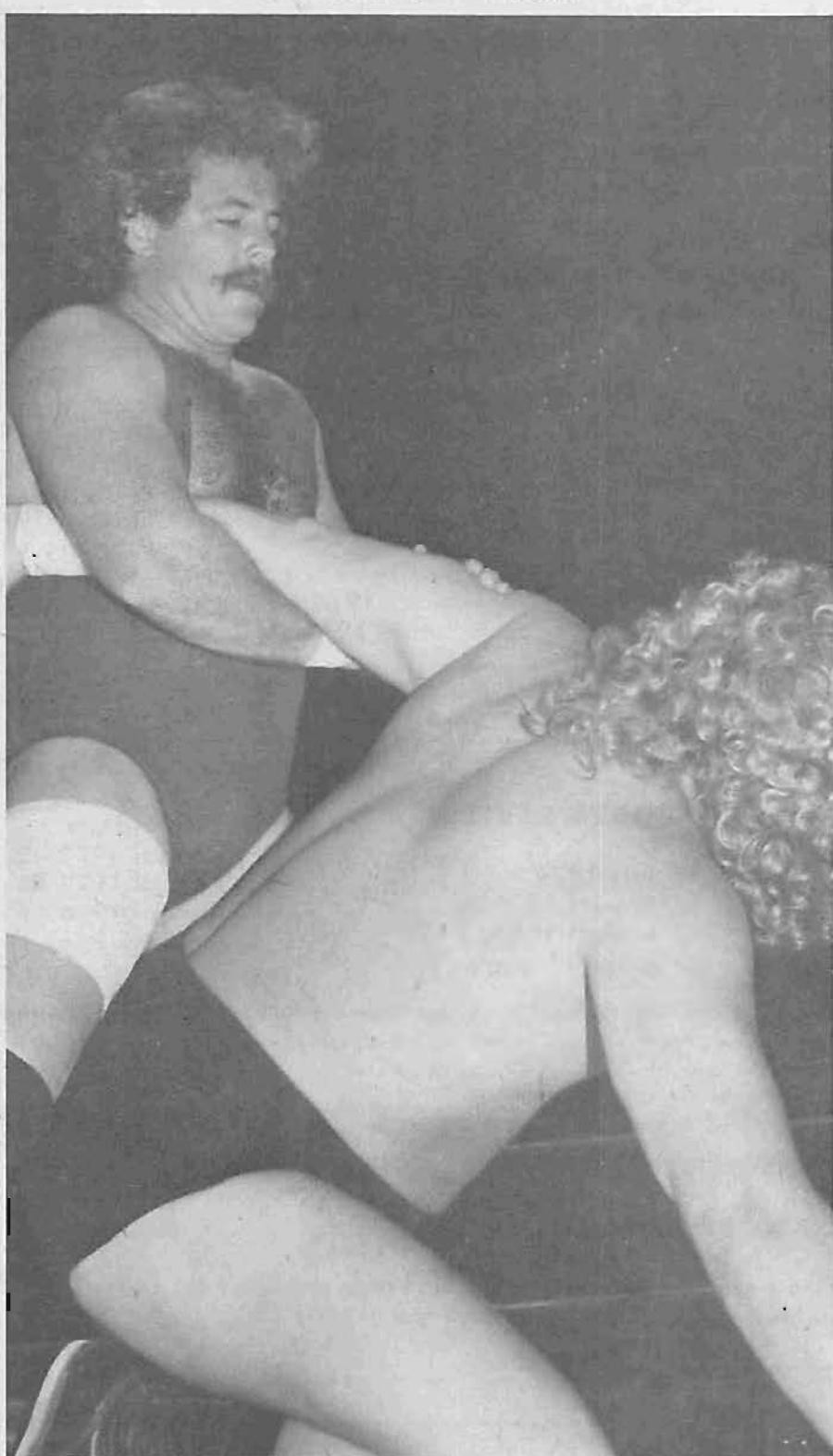
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Mike Graham

(Continued from Page 39)



Mike Graham asks the fans' approval as he rhythmically jerks Thor the Viking's arm. When Mike lets the fans dictate his strategy, he often loses momentum.

Graham, Mike's father and mentor, with a sullen look on his face. He was not at all pleased with Mike's performance.

Mike knew exactly what was on his father's mind. He threw his arms in the air and sighed. "Come on dad, what do you want from

me. This guy, Thor the Viking, is one of the tougher men around and I think I handled him okay," Mike said. "I won didn't I? Doesn't that count for anything?"

Eddie paused and stared into his son's eyes. "Mike," he said, "you're not a kid anymore. I don't have to stand here and repeat the same things to you time after time. You know damn well that you didn't follow your game plan in that match. Sure, you won. And it's great to win. And we can't take a thing away from Thor. But what do you really want out of wrestling? You want the NWA title, that's what. I don't have to keep telling you why you don't have it."

Embarrassed, Mike lowered his head and nodded. The joy of his night's success seemed days behind now. In fact, Mike Graham knew exactly what his father was talking about. He knows his weakness. He knows what stands in the way of his gaining the title.

Evidence of his problem was seen at various times during his match with Thor the Viking. Mike had the upperhand and slammed Thor's head into the turnbuckle twice. Before a third slam, he held Thor's head with his right hand and gestured to the fans with his left, seeking encouragement to continue the onslaught. The brief pause stopped his momentum and gave Thor enough time to grab Mike's trunks and pull him to the mat.

Later, Graham had Thor on the retreat after three successive dropkicks. As Mike advanced to continue his offensive, Thor dropped to his knees in the corner and begged for mercy. Mike stopped and looked to the fans to see if he should continue. As he turned his head, however, Thor rose quickly and drove his shoulder into Mike's midsection, taking the advantage.

"What can I say," Mike asked. "The fans are very important to

(Continued on page 58)

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Mike Graham

(Continued from Page 57)

me. I draw a great deal of my strength from them. I owe so much to them."

"That's true, Mike," Eddie said. "I am fully aware of that. But remember this. The fans do not have to go into the ring. The fans do not have to risk their limbs. And furthermore, the fans can never win the NWA title."

"Damnit," Mike said, clenching his fists. "I want that title."

"Then show it," said Eddie sternly. "Get in the ring. Forget about the fans. Concentrate solely on your opponent. Keep that concentration for the length of the match. Be aggressive but clean. Win your match, and then you can acknowledge the fans."



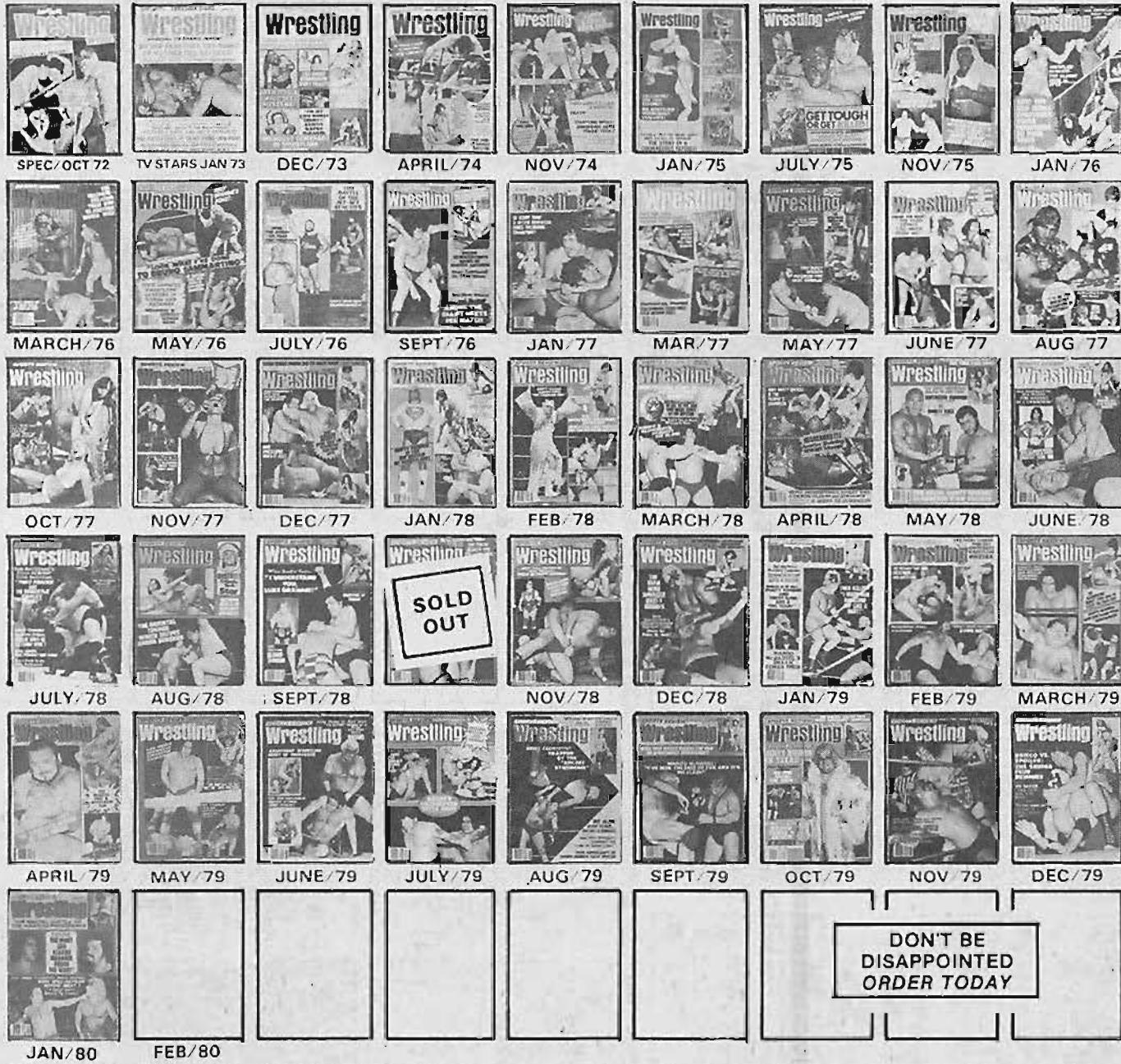
Graham reaches down to trip out Thor the Viking.

"You know you can get by doing what you are doing now," Eddie continued. "You can probably beat good wrestlers 95 percent of the time this way. But when you wrestle the greats, when the wins become essential for your next shot at the title, then you have to give it your all. And that means forget about the fans for a while."

Mike looked at his father for a moment and embraced him. "Thanks, Dad." □

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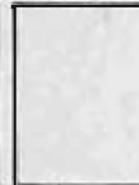
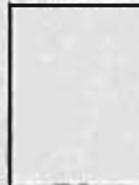
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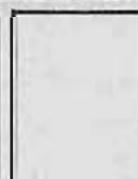
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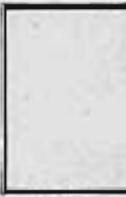
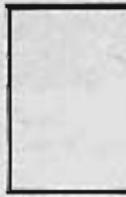
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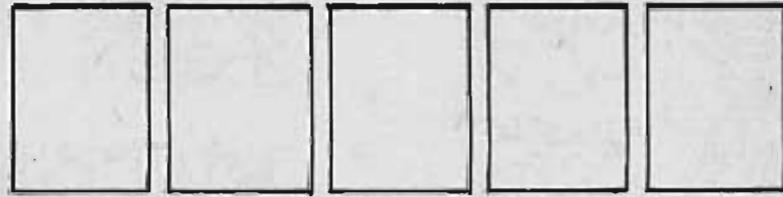


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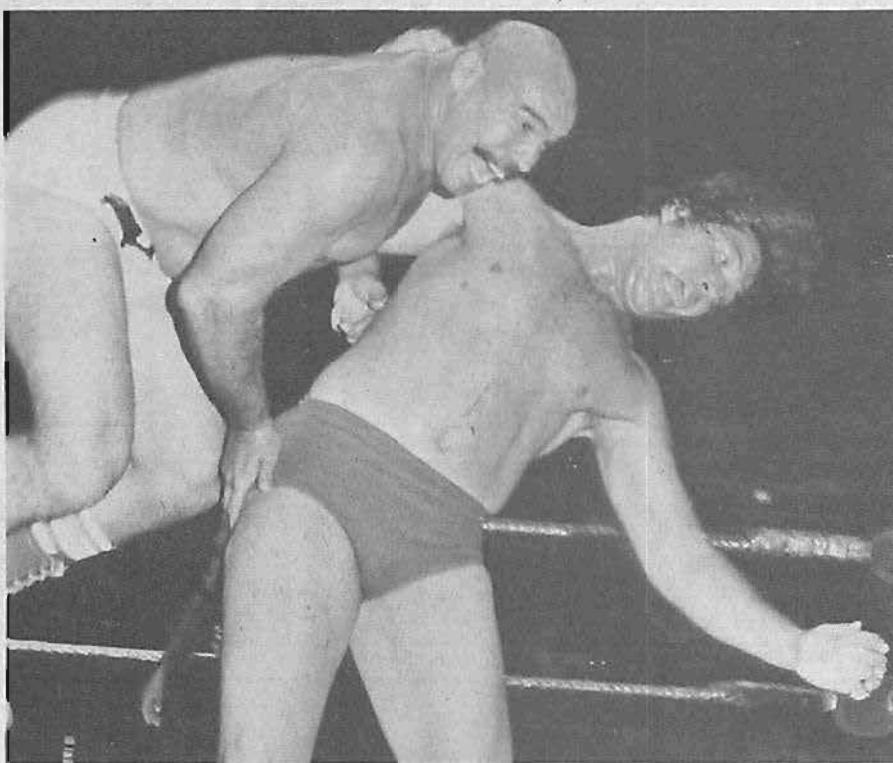
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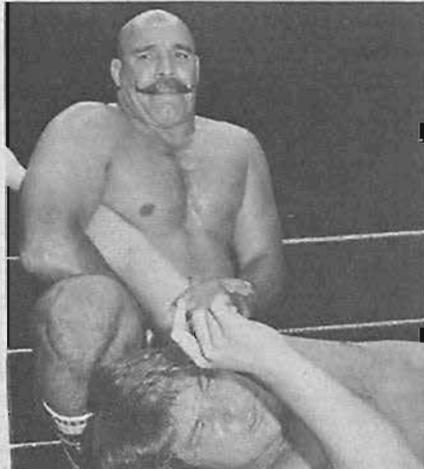
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TED DIBIASE

(Continued from Page 41)



Above: DiBiase hiprolls Hussein. Left: Hussein takes the advantage briefly. Below: The referee checks Hussein's shoulders as he tries to free himself.



all the attendant glory. He had won the Inter-Continental title in Rio de Janeiro. Naturally, Patterson was awed by this stunning victory and decided he wanted to defend that title.

Where did that leave the North American belt? In a shambles. All its credibility was lost. How can fans believe in a title when the champions disdain it? How,



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indeed?

In recent memory, one man did distinguish this belt. One man did believe in it, did address himself to the needs of the fans. His name was Ted DiBiase. He lost the belt to a vicious man. He should get it back.

We don't believe championships should be settled in print. This is a man's sport and men decide titles in the ring. Journalists shouldn't decide who deserves a title. Except . . .

These are unusual circumstances and require unusual stances. If the authorities won't do something about the string of abuses Patterson has heaped upon wrestling, we will!

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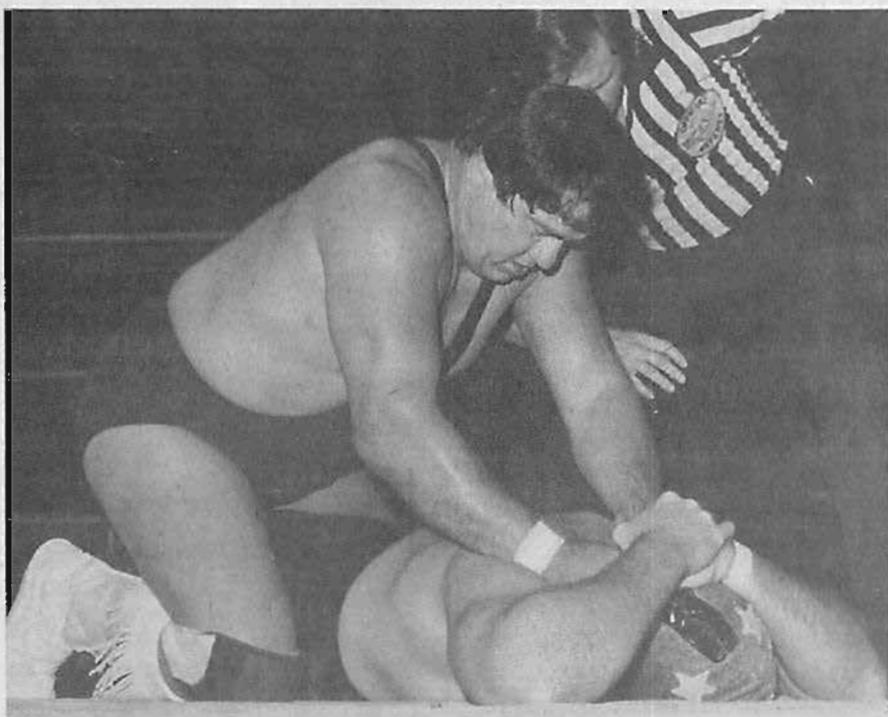
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MASKED SUPERSTAR

(Continued from Page 43)



Why is Wahoo trying to remove Masked Superstar's mask (above)? Is there any truth to Superstar's story that Wahoo is paying him to keep it on? Wahoo hangs bloodied over the bottom strand (below).



brother. You see, me and Wahoo come from the same tribe. Yup, I'm an Indian. Full-blooded Indian who likes nothin' better than whoopin' it up. Same as Wahoo.

But Wahoo knows he ain't got much talent. Hell, he can barely tie his boots up without help. He's a

bum, a stiff, a turkey. But he ain't a complete dope. He knew that with two Indians, the fans would naturally side up and favor one of us. And he knew it had to be me. Hell, talent and looks still count for something, don't they?

So I'll never forget this night as

long as I live. Wahoo comes into the dressing room, his ugly face drooping and scratching the ground. I could see he was low. I could care less. Wahoo McDaniel ain't the sort you trust or care about. He'd drive a stake into your heart in a second, if you let him. I ain't made it to the top letting punks cut me in the back.

I'm sittin' there, humming a tune to myself. Wahoo comes in, says nothin', just lays a crisp bill next to me. A big bill. Nothin' small about it. I just look down at the dough and back at Wahoo. He nods and tells me to take the bread. I check him out, suddenly suspicious. A creep like Wahoo McDaniel doesn't give money unless he wants something in return. If you catch my drift.

I stare at him, real hard. All of a sudden Wahoo starts bawlin', cryin' like a baby. I give him a tissue, he's disgustin', a grown man weepin' and bawlin' like that. I ask him what's wrong.

Scared, Wahoo looks around. No one else was in the locker room. He confides to me that he thinks he won't make it as a wrestler and maybe shoulda stayed in pro football. He coulda got a job as a water boy luggin' Gatorade or somethin'. Wahoo says he knows the fans would never accept both of us. Their loyalties would be cut in half. He wanted to know if I would kinda fade away.

I didn't ask anything. I stood up and threw his ugly body in the lockers. He started whimperin' like a scraggly dog and beggin' that I don't hurt him. He puts his hands up to defend himself, all the while cryin', and says that he just wanted me to wear a mask so there'd be only one Indian around.

I'm proud of my heritage. Damn proud. But I'm a lot prouder of big bucks. I demanded, and still get, 30 percent of Wahoo McDaniel's salary. Ain't bad, considering he's a stiff and makes little. But I wanted you fools out there to know the truth. □

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Witches have known for centuries that people are scared of them and their powers! And rightly so! **NOW YOU CAN SHARE THE SAME POWER**, that gives you—literally—life and death control over other persons! Is someone bothering you? No problem at all, with Magic Witchcraft. For example, there is a spell called the "Cross Not My Path" ritual, for people who are having neighbor trouble. When you use it, you know you will never again have trouble with this neighbor!

With these amazing Witchcraft secrets, other people will look up to you—in awe—you'll automatically dazzle others with your power to make things happen at your will, you'll be Master of your destiny, and never have to apologize to anyone for anything!

Whatever you want or need, whatever frustration is bothering you, Witchcraft will help you. It is not evil—not is it Black Magic. Like electricity, it is simply a power given by nature for the use of man, to make life easier.

You'll see how to get paid without working... how to get expensive clothes and furs FREE... how to get a first-class plane seat FREE... how to vacation at the finest hotels, motels, pools and pleasure palaces, after living like a millionaire as Witches do!

AMAZING TECHNIQUE HAS HELPED THOUSANDS!

Witchcraft secrets like these can make you rich faster than anything else in the world! Here's how others have used them to make

Now! Let This Amazing Witch Book Bring You INFINITE WEALTH, FINE POSSESSIONS, A COMFORTABLE NEW HOME, FINANCIAL SECURITY, LOVE, CONTROL OVER OTHERS, And More—Easily And Automatically!

For centuries, these Witchcraft secrets were hushed up, so that those in power could stay in power! Feudal lords kept their bondsmen as slaves. Factory owners kept their employees in dreary sweatshops, because these masters knew they must not allow their workers to realize that they must not leave their lives alone. Witchcraft was suppressed because it works! Not because of any "evil" in it. If it hadn't worked, no one would have worried about it. If you want to gain power, all you need is this amazing Witch Book!

By using these Witchcraft secrets, you can change your life and gain health, wealth, someone to love—or anything else—surely, swiftly and automatically!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY JAR!**—You'll discover the secret of the Witch's Money Jar, a mysterious jar that fills with money—wherever you want or need it! All you need is some water, paint, and an ordinary jar or bowl! You'll be amazed at the speed with which it fills with money—a seemingly endless supply of needed cash!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiplies! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering treasures, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!

• **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as you've seen has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psycher world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments, and can open the way to unguessable surprises. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

IN THIS WITCH BOOK YOU'LL DISCOVER...

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- Recharging Your Cosmic Batteries!
- Raising Your Vital Energy Level!
- How to Keep Evil Forces Away!

miracles happen in their daily lives!

You'll see how Vern, a man who likes to give a lot of expensive parties, was always short of cash until he discovered the amazing WITCH'S MONEY JAR—now all he has to do is dip in, for it brings him an endless flow of cash! Evelyn, a waitress, was always lending money to friends, and was always broke. Finally, she placed her last dollar on the table, and worked the MONEY MAGNET SPELL over it. All at once, dozens of people who had borrowed money from her, rushed to pay her back!

Hank was perpetually broke. One night he got together with some friends, and they decided to cast the MONEY SPELL. The very next day, Hank received in the mail a check for some \$250 worth of insurance. (He had never heard of the company that sent the check; he was not insured with them, and had never even made a claim—but he accepted the money.) Another member of the group that used the spell, a 40-year-old secretary, received an automobile as a gift! All the other members of the group received amazing windfalls of money, as well! You'll see how Dexter, a retiree, lives RENT FREE and receives \$200 a week at the age of 78, with a secret you'll find in this Witch Book! You'll see how Claudine, a secretary, was able to wear the finest, most expensive furs—FREE—and spend weekends at an expensive ski lodge in the mountains, where she met a wonderful man! How Ruth L., a widow—with nothing but a small pension, and a little savings—received her dream house, by using a simple 5-minute ritual on page 38 of this book!

Using the same Witchcraft secrets, YOU can achieve peace of mind and freedom from money worries for the rest of your life!

YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF AS WITCHES DO!

Feeling sick today? Plagued by a lot of troublesome illnesses? Perhaps your relative is sick and constantly demanding your attention? Or perhaps it is even a pet that needs help? With the MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT, you can cure anything, say authors Gavin and Yvonne Frost: "In our experience... we have not found a single incurable disease!"

• **ANDY DISSOLVES A GALLSTONE!**—Andy M. developed gallstones. When his illness became too troublesome to ignore, he went to a doctor. X-ray tests revealed that he was chronically alkaline. His body was badly out of balance. Using this Witchcraft method to restore balance to the mind and body—in a short while, X-rays showed that he had no more gallstones! Andy never again suffered the excruciating pain of passing stones.

In the same way, say Gavin and Yvonne Frost, almost all illness can be prevented. You are actually employing an ancient Witchcraft method to remove diseased tissue! Even if you do not have any belief in the results, the power will work for you!

One woman, who had been in a wheelchair for 26 years, due to polio and arthritis, used the Witchcraft healing method, and reported that she had no pain and could walk and garden again! A man reported that his son's deep 3rd degree burns miraculously healed overnight!

• **SO SIMPLE A CHILD USES IT!**—A 4-year-old girl asked if she could try to heal a man who was limping—due to a torn ligament—with this simple Witchcraft healing method. In a matter of moments, she started her chant, laying her hands on the weak ankle. The man was miraculously cured! To skeptics, this should be convincing PROOF that anyone can use it!

AMAZING POWER CAN BE YOURS!

Whether you want infinite wealth, or just a comfortable new home, financial security, fine possessions, love, companionship, new health and vigor, power to control others, secret knowledge, protection from evil—or anything else, the magic power of Witchcraft can bring it to you quickly, easily and automatically! It's the exact thing in the world!

• **HOW TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE!**—Would you like to be able to see the future? You CAN with the magic Black Mirror! You'll see how to make it on page 21. All you need is some ink and a bowl of water. Then use the chant on this page, and you will be able to see many things. One man used it to read tomorrow's newspaper. You can use it to check the stock market, or that important horse race!

• **MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!**—A



MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D. is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina, with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

MR. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D. with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which he is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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• **SECRETS OF SILENT PERSUASION!**—There is a magic handshake that Witches often use, revealed on page 62. With this secret, you can implant a thought in someone's mind! You can use this Witchcraft power to dominate others! Control your boss! Make someone love you! Leave your enemies groveling in the dust! There is even a saying technique Witches use on page 45, for identifying thoughts. With this secret, you can read your friend's mind and share his or her identical thoughts!

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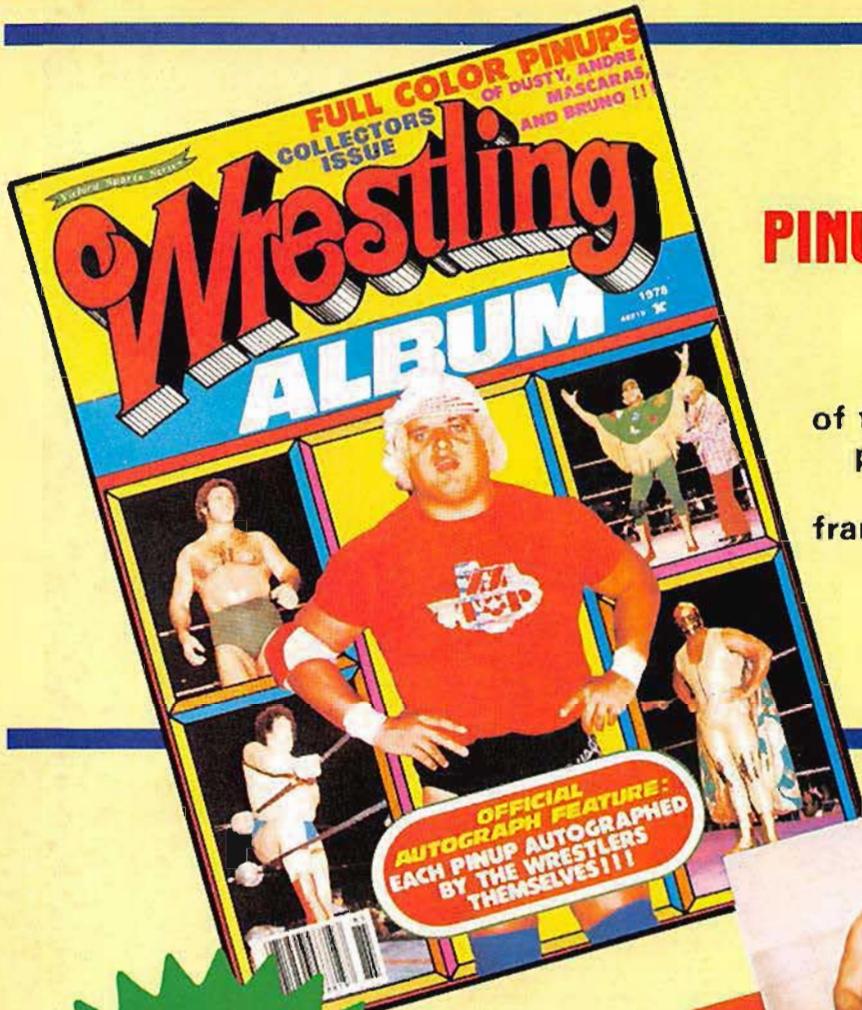
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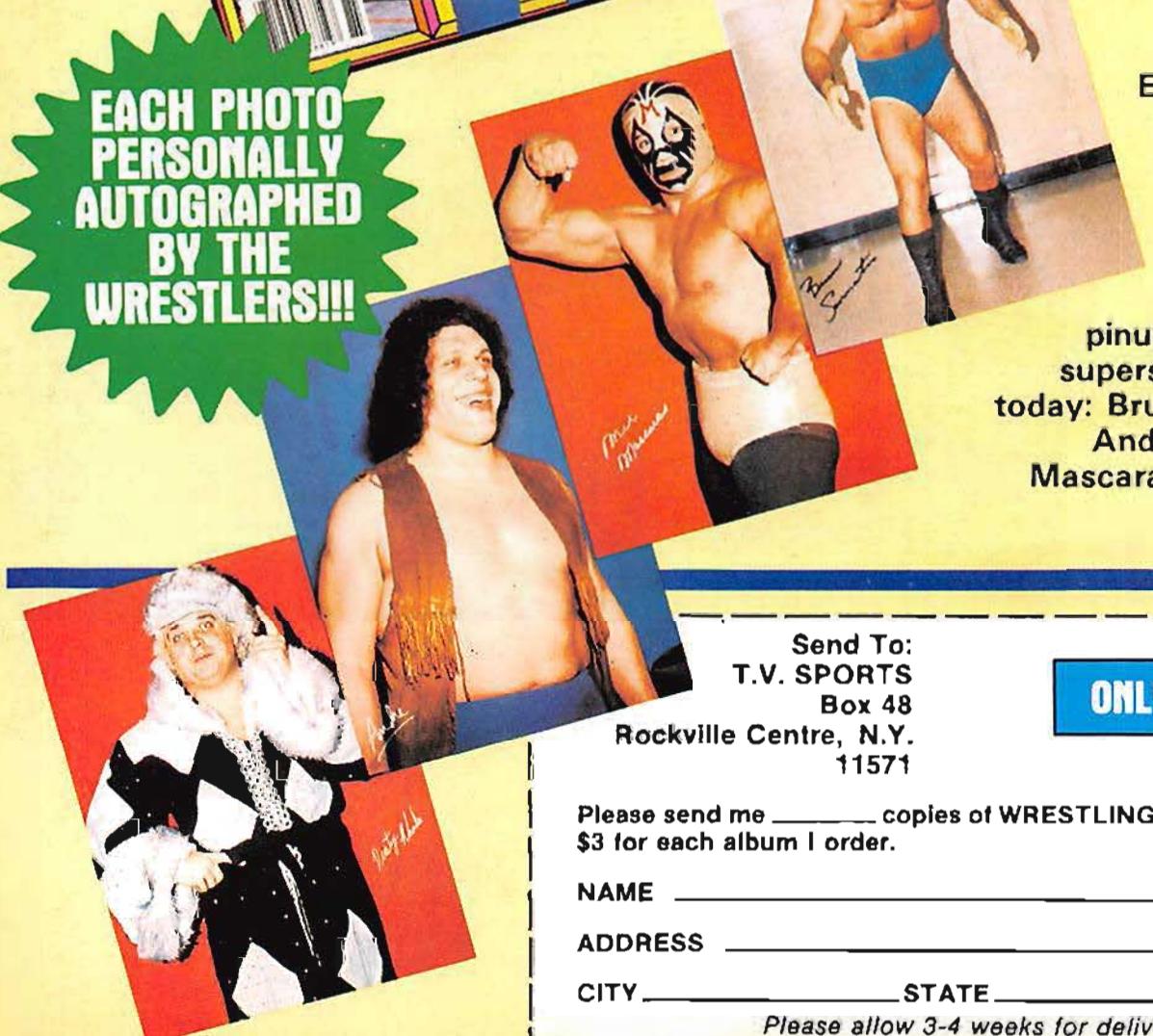


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